



# **CITY OF GREENWOOD**

## **PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

### **2002-2006**

**PREPARED FOR:**

**The City of Greenwood Parks & Recreation Board**

**PREPARED BY:**

**HNTB Corporation  
111 Monument Circle  
Suite 1200  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5178  
(317) 636-4682**

**July 18, 2001**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This plan was prepared with the assistance, direction, and cooperation of the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and the citizens of the City of Greenwood.

**Mayor Charles E. Henderson**

### **CITY OF GREENWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

Clyde Freshour, President

Mike Sawa, Vice President

Marya Jo Butler, Secretary

Member – to be filled

### **CITY OF GREENWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF**

Evan Springer, Executive Director

Chip Orner, Director of Recreation

Tim Schrader, Director of Parks

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Darius Janes, Maintenance Foreman

Brad Hale & Jim Lamb, Grounds Workers

***Prepared by HNTB Corporation, Indianapolis***

## **CITY OF GREENWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

A Resolution Accepting the Park and Recreation Master Plan:

WHEREAS, The City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board is focused on providing a quality parks and recreation system for the citizens of Greenwood, Indiana; and,

WHEREAS, in doing so the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board has sought opinions and input from the officials and citizens of City of Greenwood in developing a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board desires to make itself eligible to meet certain requirements for participation in grant programs, including the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant process; and,

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2001, the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board received the final draft document of the proposed 5 -Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan, prepared by HNTB Corporation of Indianapolis.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board hereby accepts and adopts the final draft document of the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan presented on July 18, 2001, as its official 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the period of 2002 to 2006.

Dated this 18th day of July, 2001

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clyde Freshour, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Sawa, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marya Jo Butler, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Dietrich, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST: Evan Springer, Executive Director

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# **CHAPTER 1 -- INTRODUCTION**

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **A. WHY PROVIDE RECREATION AND PARKS?**

Recreation, whether passive or active, provides a healthy outlet for daily pressures, while parks and preserves hold valuable recreation land in trust for public use and educational purposes. Very simply, parks and recreation greatly increases the quality of life in a community.

The public's call for parks and recreation rises from a variety of individual needs and reasons. In general, our parks and recreation programs provide shared experiences for Greenwood's citizens, while offering physical exercise and conservation of public open space.

In recent years, preservation and conservation of natural resources has become a higher priority for communities and individuals alike. Ironically, as more people turn to natural areas as recreation resources, "the great outdoors" is in danger of being overused. In the City of Greenwood, as in much of the United States, the development of new facilities has not kept pace with the increasing population and the citizen's growing demand for recreational resources.

This park and recreation master plan provides a means for addressing the many recreational needs within City of Greenwood, and is a logical and necessary extension of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Henderson's State of the City Address on January 23, 2001 talked about the City's need to look at walking and hiking trails, a skate board park and to decide how to improve the city's swimming facility. This Plan was authorized by the Park Board with the understanding that it would address the following timely priorities:

- The acquisition of new park land.
- The need for a citywide system of greenways and trails.
- Feasibility study for new family aquatic facility or renovation of existing facility
- Determine what facilities, activities, and programs the citizens desire
- Identification of funding opportunities.

In addition to these current issues, the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Master Plan studies existing resources, delineates prime areas for future recreational development, and recommends a role for the Parks and Recreation Department to play in



meeting future recreational needs. This master plan is a working document and will require periodic updating to respond to changes in the community and corresponding change in the goals of the City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board.

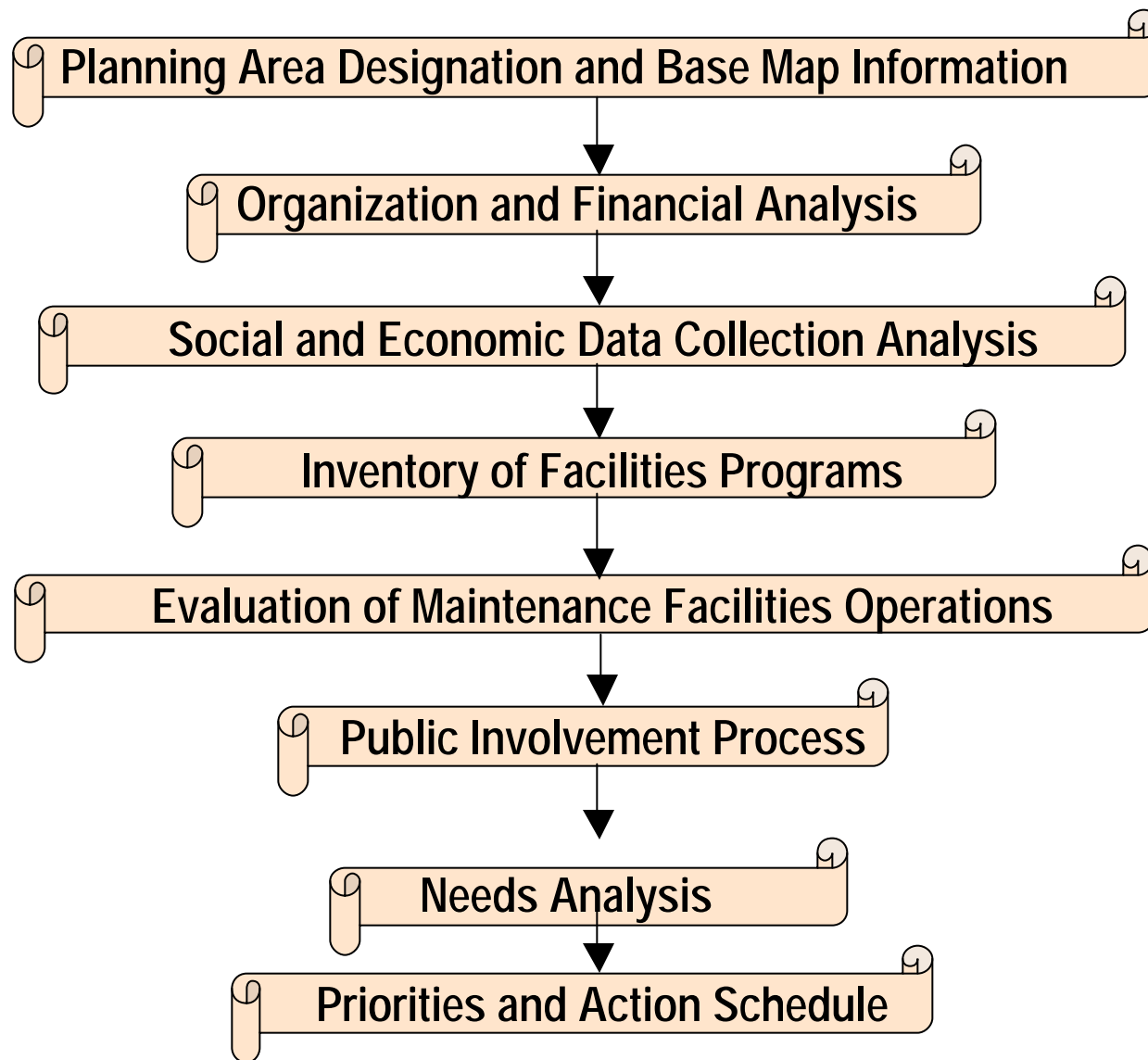
## **B. THE PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN PROCESS**

The City of Greenwood Parks and Recreation Board initiated the 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan in order to ensure that they would continue to provide optimum service to the City's residents and visitors. The Board employed HNTB Corporation of Indianapolis as their consultant for the preparation of this master plan to guide the City of Greenwood's future in recreation programming and planning. The 2005 Master Plan was developed using a planning team approach. The planning team included the park and recreation staff, park and recreation board members, and the consultants. The planning process divided tasks into three main categories to help organize information into a proper sequence for problem solving. These categories include inventory, analysis, plan development and implementation.

In the inventory stage of the planning process, data relevant to recreation planning was collected and compiled. This information included but was not limited to natural and environmental features, demographic and economic data, cultural and man-made influences, existing park and recreation opportunities, park and recreation trends, and local attitudes concerning recreation. The latter was determined through questionnaires and public meetings that the planning team designed and conducted.

Once compiled, these pieces of information were analyzed to determine influences on the public's demand for public recreation. This analysis, in conjunction with a review of the existing recreation supply within the City, indicated what the City of Greenwood's future recreational needs were.

The final step in the planning process is development of the plan and steps for its implementation. The last section of this document contains the actual action plan. Goals for recreation development were set and recommendations on how to achieve these goals were made based on identified recreational needs and deficiencies. Needs and deficiencies were initially identified by comparison of current recreation facilities with state and national standards.



## **PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN PROCESS DIAGRAM**

Greenwood Park and Recreation Master Plan 2002 - 2006

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## **CHAPTER 2 – RESOURCE INVENTORY & ANALYSIS**

## **II. RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS**

### **A. REGIONAL CONTEXT**

Potential recreation needs and opportunities are defined in part through an inventory of available resources. The inventory and analysis process examines environmental, cultural and manmade resources within the City and its surrounding area. These resources directly affect population growth patterns and the type of recreation in which people choose to participate. Once compiled, this information is used in conjunction with a needs assessment to project future recreation needs.

The City of Greenwood is located directly south of Indianapolis. The City is currently approximately 16 square miles in size. I-65, US 31, and SR 135 intersect the community. In 1990, the City of Greenwood had a population of 27,153. By the 2000 Census, the population of the City had increased to 36,037 (about a 33% increase). Greenwood is the largest community in Johnson County, but is not the county seat. The other communities in Johnson County that take advantage of Greenwood Parks' services include Franklin (the county seat), Whiteland, New Whiteland, White River Township and portions of southern Marion County.

It should be noted that the present boundaries of the City have been amended several times since the 2000 Census was conducted, through voluntary annexations, and are still expanding.

### **B. NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES**

Outdoor recreation, in general, relies heavily upon the natural and environmental features of an area. The characteristics of these features significantly affect the prevalent forms of recreation most likely to occur in any one area. Regions with extended winters will typically develop more winter-oriented recreational facilities than regions with warmer climates. To the extent that the City's park system tends to be resource based, the City of Greenwood offers a balanced climate with diverse natural resources giving the Parks and Recreation Department a substantial recreation reserve with which to work.

#### **1. Climate**

The general climate of the City is temperate and characteristically humid. In winter, the average temperature is 29 degrees F, and the average daily minimum temperature is 20 degrees. In summer the average temperature is 76 degrees, and the average daily maximum temperature is 84 degrees. The total average annual precipitation is approximately 40 inches. Precipitation is fairly uniformly distributed throughout the year. The average recorded snowfall is 21 inches. Prevailing winds are from the south-southwest.

## **2. Topography and Drainage**

The City of Greenwood primarily lies within the “Tipton Till Plain”, a physiographic region that is mostly nearly level to moderately sloping. The highest point in Johnson County is about 1,002 feet above sea level, on a high ridge west of Peoga. The lowest point in Johnson County is about 635 feet above sea level, in the northwestern corner of the County, where the White River leaves Johnson County and enters Morgan County. Neither the highest nor the lowest points in the county are within Greenwood, which has much less local relief (ranging from approximately 700 feet above sea level to 850 feet above sea level). The steepest slopes are near Pleasant Run Creek. More common within the City of Greenwood is the problem of creating enough relief on individual sites to get adequate drainage.

Two major drainage systems within Indiana drain Johnson County, the East Fork and the West Fork of the White River. A line drawn from Greenwood to Bargersville and south to a point slightly east of Peoga divides Johnson County into two drainage areas. Greenwood primarily drains into the West Fork of the White River, which flows through the extreme northwestern part of the county.

## **3. Water Bodies and Flood Areas**

Water has not played a major role in shaping trade and recreation within the City of Greenwood. The most dominant water body in Greenwood is Pleasant Run Creek, which flows through some of Greenwood's parks (Westside Park, Northwest Park, Northwest Annex Park). Pleasant Run Creek is a 15.2-mile long tributary which flows west to the White River, and has a drainage area of 24.1 square miles. Other Greenwood water bodies include:

- Fountain Creek, a 1.5-mile long tributary to Pleasant Run Creek, with a drainage area of 1.0 square miles;
- Pleasant Creek, a 4.2 mile tributary flowing west to Pleasant Run Creek, that flows through Craig Park/Surina Square

Park, Northeast Park, Pool Park and Old City Park;

- Grassy Creek, a 7.5 mile tributary flowing south to Young Creek, with a drainage area of 15.3 square miles;
- Pleasant Creek South Branch, a small tributary flowing 0.8 miles west to Pleasant Creek, with a drainage area of 0.6 square miles;
- North Bluff Creek;
- Tracey Ditch.

Stream corridors are some of the most interesting natural features in Greenwood. Efforts should be made to protect these corridors for future generations. One way to ensure that stream corridors are protected is to strongly enforce the City's flood ordinance, which prohibits construction in the floodway.

Flooding may occur in any season. A major flood in July 1969 was measured as a 70-year flood on Pleasant Run Creek and a 10-year flood on Pleasant Creek (along U.S. 31). This flood caused a downstream bridge at 950 N to be washed out. Many parks are developed in floodways, and passive recreation uses work well on those marginal sites. The risk with building in a floodway is that flooding can destroy improvements, and require costly repairs to parks.

Much of Old Towne Greenwood is located within the 100-year flood area. The City is currently working with the Army Corp of Engineers to study options. Previous suggestions have included construction of a flood control levee, which may present some recreational opportunities.

Water bodies can be used for travel, in addition to serving as a recreation amenity. Neither Pleasant Run Creek, nor any of the other Greenwood water bodies are considered to be navigable waterways, which are usable for canoeing, etc. There are, however, four (4) water bodies in Johnson County which are considered to be navigable waterways:

- Big Blue River: Navigable throughout the county.
- East Fork of White River: Navigable to its junction with the Flatrock and Driftwood Rivers.
- Sugar Creek: Navigable from its junction with the Big Blue River (to form the Driftwood River) throughout the county.
- West Fork of White River: Navigable throughout the county.

Ownership is one issue that determines whether a waterway is navigable. Public recreational and commercial usage of the

surface of a river or stream often depends upon whether the water is navigable. Other waterways, in addition to the above may, however, be authorized for public usage. A prescriptive easement may exist or a waterway may be a "*public freshwater lake*" subject to IC 14-26-2 and 310 IAC 6-2. Also, pursuant to IC 14-29-8, the Natural Resources Commission may, by rule, declare a waterway to be a "*recreational stream*."

#### **4. Flora and Fauna**

According to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, several endangered, threatened or rare species of plants and animals have been documented in Johnson County. The list includes two plants (*Butternut and Horned Pondweed*), 12 different mussels, 2 different dragonflies, 2 fish (*Harlequin Darter, Northern Studfish*), one snake (*Kirtland's Snake*), and 12 different birds (*Bachman's Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Great Blue Heron, Upland Sandpiper, Northern Harrier, Sedge Wren, Black-Crowned Night-Heron, King Rail, Virginia Rail, Barn Owl*).

### **C. SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND MAN-MADE INFLUENCES**

#### **1. Socio-Economic Characteristics**

##### **a. Population Growth**

According to the US Bureau of the Census, the City of Greenwood's 2000 Population was 36,037. The 1990 Census documented 27,153 people residing in City of Greenwood, so there was an increase in population of almost 33% (8884 people) between 1990 and 2000. During the same time period, Johnson County's population increased by 27,100 people, to a total county population of 115,209, making them the third fastest growing county in Indiana (behind Hamilton and Hendricks Counties).

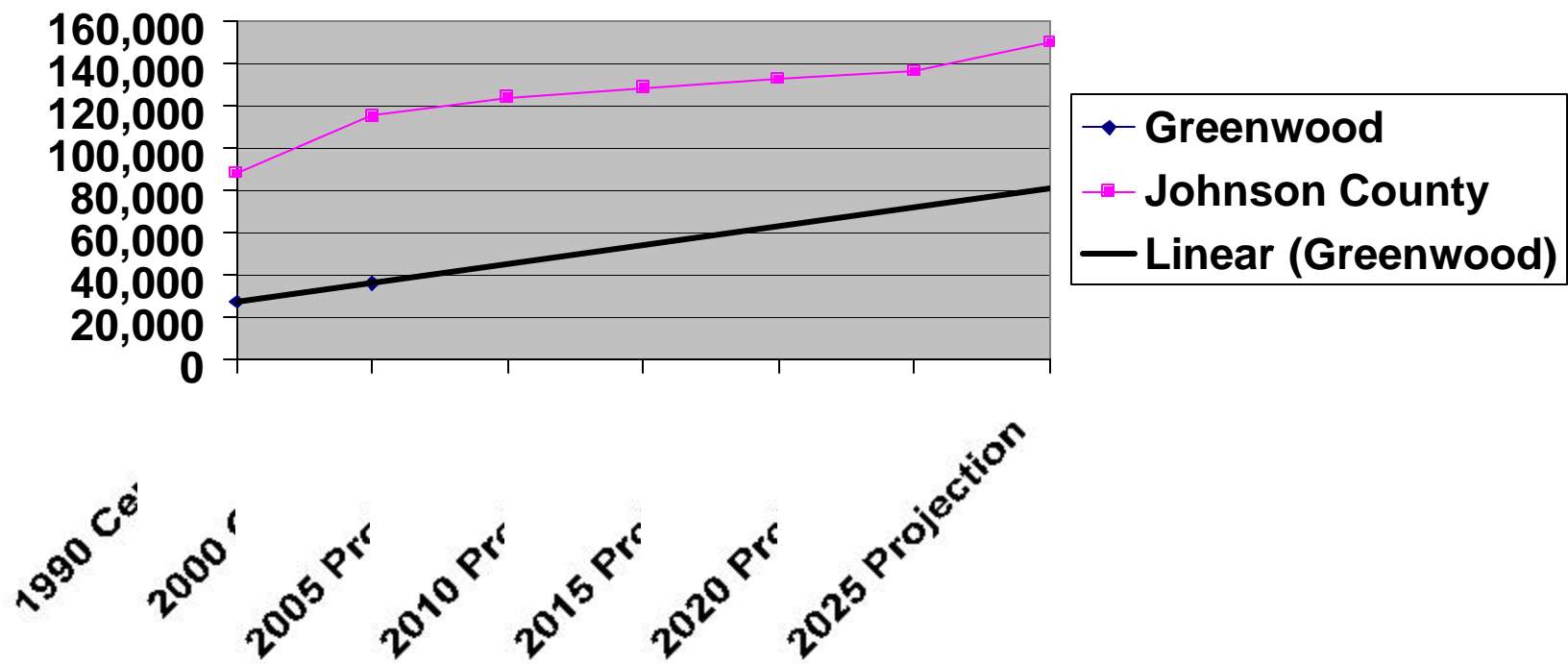
*By way of comparison, the County's addition of 27,100 people between the 1990 and 2000 Census counts is approximately equal to what the 1990 population of Greenwood was (27,153) – the County has effectively added a second "Greenwood" to its population over the last decade.*

This population growth has a significant impact on the park and recreation facilities in Greenwood and Johnson County.

##### **b. Population and Household Projections**

Preliminary population projections from the recently completed ***Projections of Population and Employment to 2025***, prepared for the City of Indianapolis' Department of Metropolitan Development, show that Johnson County would add about 34,000 people over the next 25 years (a 30% increase in population).

*By way of comparison, the County's addition of 34,000 people over the next 25 years is approximately equal to what the 2000 population of Greenwood was (36,037) – effectively adding yet another “Greenwood” to the county's population in the next quarter-century.*





Note that these projections did not take future annexation into account, but instead used a model that projected past trends into the future. This 30% growth rate may be applicable to Greenwood, but could turn out to be low, depending on the amount of annexation.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR JOHNSON COUNTY					
2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
115,515	123,680	128,610	132,706	136,408	150,128

The following table, also from *Projections of Population and Employment to 2025*, illustrates that the number of households in Johnson County are projected to increase by 36%, while the rate of population growth shown in the table above is only an increase of 30%. This difference in growth rates can be attributed to the continuing trend of decreasing household sizes. This trend of declining household size has been predominately due to the maturation of the post-World War II baby boom generation creating “new” households while leaving behind an existing household (their parents)—albeit with fewer persons per household. Other contributing factors to this trend were higher divorce rates (effectively creating two households where there used to be one) and a greater propensity of Americans to live alone, thereby creating a larger proportion of single-person households.

HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS FOR JOHNSON COUNTY					
2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
41,961	45,339	47,582	49,556	51,419	57,129

### c. Age and Sex

As of May 2001, the 2000 Census results had not yet been fully released. Very general age information was made available for purposes of redistricting, and is shown below:

	Children 0 to 17 Years of Age				Adults 18 and Older			
	2000 CENSUS		1990 CENSUS		2000 CENSUS		1990 CENSUS	
	Total	% of total population	Total	% of total population	Total	% of total population	Total	% of total population
<b>Greenwood</b>	9,127	25.3%	6,524	24.8%	26,910	74.7%	19,741	75.2%
<b>Johnson County</b>	31,333	27.2%	23,817	27.0%	83,876	72.8%	64,292	73.0%
<b>Indiana</b>	1,574,396	25.9%	1,455,964	26.3%	4,506,089	74.1%	4,088,195	73.7%

Greenwood's 2000 age distribution, between adults and children, closely reflects the overall distribution in the State of Indiana.

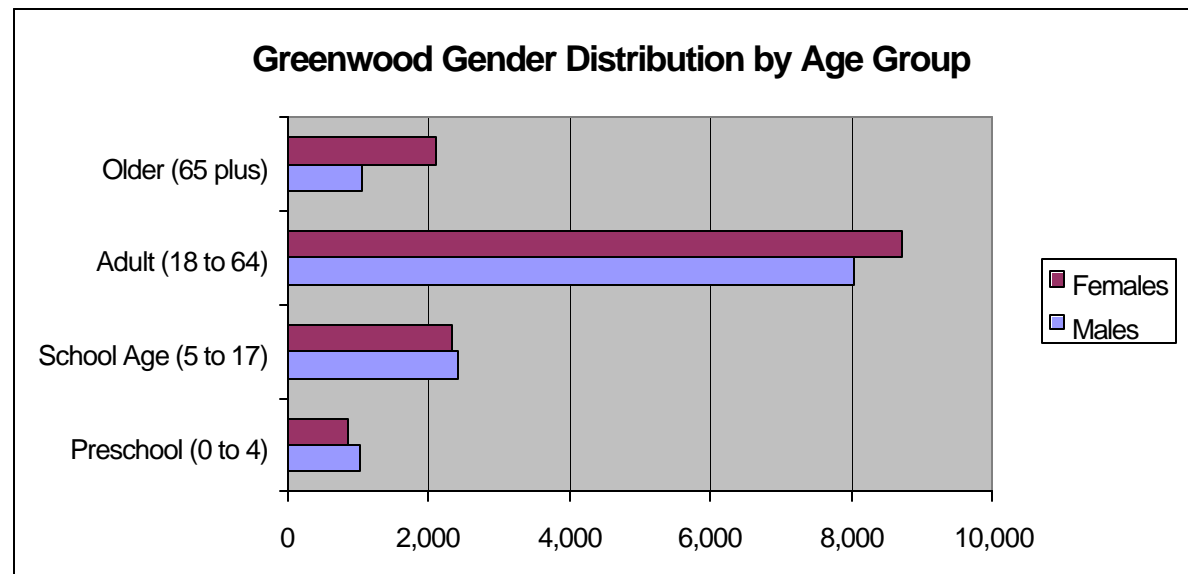
Since more detailed age information is needed to be useful in terms of planning, past trends and projections can be useful. Previous census information shows that in Johnson County, the number of older Hoosiers more than doubled between 1960 and 1990 (one of the biggest jumps in the State of Indiana). It is therefore important to consider whether the aging of our population will continue. Projections from the Indiana Business Research Center (IBRC) indicate that between 2010 and 2030, baby-boomers moving into the older (65 years+) population age group will increase the size of this age group dramatically. In 2010, there will be almost three-quarters of a million Hoosiers aged 65 and over; in 2030, nearly 1.1 million. Meanwhile other age groupings will show very small increases or even decreases.

What this look into the future reveals is that while attention must currently be given to providing for the recreational needs of the "adult" (25 – 49 year old) age group, we must be prepared to address changing needs as this group ages. Considerations that would affect recreational programming and facilities might include decreased mobility of that aging population, and increased leisure time and lower disposable income resulting from retirement.

Greenwood Park and Recreation Master Plan 2002 - 2006

A more detailed breakdown of the City of Greenwood's population by age and sex would be useful in determining who the users of recreation services might be. Using 1990 Census data, a chart was developed showing the primary client age categories of pre-school, school age, adult and senior citizen. Programming and facility demands will vary with each age group, and between males and females. For example, there were almost twice as many woman aged 65 and above than there were men in 1990, suggesting that special programming for older women might be appropriate (i.e., some activities, such as "gentle" water exercise classes are popular with older women).

Simply looking at this table, one might conclude that Greenwood should direct its recreational resources to serving the adult category, since it is the largest. This would be a mistake – it is important to consider the needs of all (age) groups in the



community. For example, school age children benefit from recreational activities that teach life-long fitness and sportsmanship. Greenwood's Park Board has already established the importance of serving children and youth.

#### **d. Poverty and Disabilities**

There are other groups in the City, which also deserve special attention, with regards to recreation services. According to the March 1998 Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, 5.8% of Greenwood's residents (6304 people) were living in poverty (compared to 9.9% of all Hoosiers). That survey also revealed that 8% of all people under age 18 live in poverty (compared to 14.8% statewide). Of all the City of Greenwood residents living in poverty, 37% were children under 18 years of age. While the proportions of residents living in poverty are lower than statewide averages, there are still a substantial number of residents without resources. These figures indicate that special consideration should be given to the programming and facility needs of poverty-stricken residents, especially children.

<b>MODEL-BASED POVERTY ESTIMATES</b>	<b>Johnson County</b>		<b>Indiana</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>People of all ages in poverty</b>	6,304	5.8	583,055	9.9
<b>People under age 18 in poverty</b>	2,346	8.0	228,246	14.8
<b>Related children age 5-17 in families in poverty</b>	1,536	7.5	144,372	13.4

Estimates model 1997 income reported in the March 1998 Current Population Survey. These estimates were released in November 2000.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The City's disabled population is probably in keeping with national percentages, but there are many different levels and types of disabilities, and no good source exists which quantifies disabilities by City. The 1990 Census attempted to track people with mobility problems (e.g., of non-institutionalized older persons in 1990, 15% reported a mobility limitation which made it difficult to go outside the home alone; 11% reported a self-care limitation which made it difficult to take care of their own personal needs). That question was somewhat controversial, and data associated with it were not considered reliable. Regardless of the actual numbers, every effort should be made by the City to continue being compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## e. Income and Employment

The City of Greenwood's population benefits from their close proximity to the Indianapolis job market. According to calculations by Morton J. Marcus, of IU's Kelley School of Business, in 1998, Hoosier commuters carried \$106 billion home from work. Of that amount 29% (\$29.4 billion) crossed a county line. Largely because of its proximity to Marion County, Johnson County imported 64% of its earnings in 1998. For every income dollar exported from Johnson County, \$4.00 came back from income earned by Johnson County residents in other counties. Johnson County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state in dependence on income in-flows.

Workers from Johnson County have less time to spend on recreation due to their commuting to work outside the community. They also have fewer opportunities to engage in recreation locally, since they are not there during the "workday". These restrictions indicate that the commuting population might respond to shorter programs offered by Greenwood Parks Department, either very early in the morning (before leaving for work) or after 6 PM (after returning from work).

The employment commute appears to be worthwhile financially. The estimated 1997 household income was \$48,879, which ranked the County considerably higher than the State's average of \$37,909. This means that residents of the City of Greenwood appear to have disposable income to spend on recreation, including more costly activities such as golf.

In the last 30 years, the real personal income per job in the nation and in metro Indianapolis has been growing.<sup>1</sup> However, it is notable that the "gap" between real income per job in the U.S. and in the metro area is widening. Thus, economic growth in the past three decades is benefiting Indianapolis area residents and jobholders but not as much as in the nation as a whole.

Real personal income per job (constant 1996 dollars) in the U.S. in 1970 was \$31,320. This national number was higher than any of the Indianapolis numbers represented on the preceding graphic, but is affected also by differences in local costs of living:

<sup>1</sup>*Adjusting actual personal income for, in essence, changes in buying power or inflation determines real personal income.* In this case, the adjustment was made using the Gross Domestic Product Implicit Price Deflator.

- For Indiana as a whole, the figure was \$29,650,

- For the Indianapolis metro area, it was \$30,140, and
- For Marion County, where most of the jobs are, it was \$26,310, about 16 % less than the national average and 13 % lower than the metropolitan average.

These figures indicate personal income of residents of each jurisdiction compared to the number of jobs in each jurisdiction. So the comparisons shown above do not necessarily indicate that the jobs in Marion County, for example, pay less than those in the U.S., on average. Instead, they more closely reflect a pattern of lower relative incomes of Marion County residents despite the county's ability to attract most of the jobs in the region. In all likelihood, residents of other counties are holding the higher paying jobs.

In other words, incomes have been rising but not relative to U.S. trends, particularly in Marion County. While there have been substantial improvements in the ability of Indianapolis area residents to afford a higher standard of living, those improvements have been increasing even more rapidly in many other parts of the country.

For much the same reasons that contributed to the trend of smaller household size, the number of jobs increased at more than three times the population growth between 1970 and 1998. When the baby boomers created new households, they also sought employment. The American and Indianapolis regional economies responded by creating jobs in unprecedented numbers (some data further suggest that this came at the expense of *not* investing in technology—a shortfall which has been overcome during the 1990s). Moreover, this was a period when women entered the labor force in proportions never before experienced in peacetime, a result of broader and longer education and the opportunities for increased economic well being.

Employment is growing much more slowly at present because of the high rates of labor force employment and because there are fewer people entering the labor force in the generations after the baby boomers. The nature of contemporary work, however, is no longer as physically taxing as in decades past due to greater technology in goods producing sectors and more jobs in the services sectors. Thus, people are encouraged to remain in the labor force longer or to return to labor force after retirement. Such factors are not only helping to maintain a high rate of employment but to increase the size of the labor force beyond historic patterns.

Like the rest of the nation, metro Indianapolis has experienced a dramatic shift from jobs in the manufacturing sector to the services sector. Manufacturing jobs made up about 26% of all jobs in 1970 but dropped sharply to 13% by 1997 (the last year

for which comparable data with the nation were available). Conversely, jobs in the services sector increased from 16% in 1970 to 26% in 1997—almost a mirrored reversal of the manufacturing sector.

One of the factors driving the notable shift from manufacturing to services was a marked increase in machine and computer technology in the manufacturing sector. Thus, jobs could be eliminated—particularly those requiring much physical effort or repetitive work—in favor of machines and higher skilled workers who can operate the advanced machines.

Also contributing to the shift was a downsizing in the size of non-production workers, such as those in various support departments like personnel, accounting, legal, marketing, and finance. While such jobs are not *production* jobs in the sense that they manufacture goods, they were considered manufacturing jobs if they were held within manufacturing companies. In cost-cutting measures, many of these functions were moved to consulting firms, law firms, and accounting firms but the functions remained important to the manufacturing firms. In essence, the same people are performing the same tasks for manufacturing as in the past, but non-manufacturing (typically service) companies now employ them and so their jobs are classified outside of manufacturing.

Indianapolis, the region's employment center, was a relatively strong manufacturing center in the country in 1970 (26.4% manufacturing jobs in the metro area vs. 21.6% nationally) but has become very similar to the nation more recently (13.0% in the metro area vs. 12.4% nationally). Likewise, Indianapolis has become more like the nation in the services sector. Services in 1970 made up 16.2% of jobs in Indianapolis and 18.7% in the country. By 1997, services made up 29.6 % of Indianapolis jobs and 30.8 % nationally.

Consistently during the 1990s, the unemployment rate in metropolitan Indianapolis has been well below the national rate, as shown below. In 1990, for instance, the unemployment rate in Indianapolis was 3.7% compared to the U.S. rate of 5.5%. While the rate increased relative to the nation by 1995, it still remained at a lower rate. As of March 2000, the rate in Indianapolis had been under 3% for about three years while the national rate remained above 4%.<sup>2</sup>

Generally speaking, an unemployment rate below the national rate suggests a strong economy able to employ its residents while attracting growth. Recently, however, the very low unemployment rates in many metro areas, including Indianapolis, can be interpreted as stifling potential growth. This is due, in part, to the lack of available workers in the labor force, so companies cannot grow by employing unemployed workers. Nor can the region convince companies to locate in the area for the same reason.

Independent projections of employment are not available from other sources so, in the projections shown in this report, it is assumed that future employment will be a function of population growth, though not a direct function. The metropolitan ratio of employment to population would remain the same for a period, but it would tend to turn down when the post-World War II baby boomer generation begins to reach retirement age. (The ratio of employment to population has been increasing for many years due to baby boomers, women, and senior citizens joining and staying in the labor force in unprecedented numbers and proportions.)

Thus, population would continue to grow in the region but employment would grow at a slower rate in the latter years of the projection period.

Moreover, it is projected that Marion County will begin to lose some of its employment dominance. Coupled with population growth in the region is a spreading out of population to the other counties—at least according to the above-described projections. As this population moves outward, some of the job growth will go with it. It is projected that the number of jobs in Marion County will start to decrease even as the region's jobs continue to increase.

<sup>2</sup>The latest comparable figures are for March 2000. But the U.S. rate fell below four % in April.



Projections of employment by major industry sectors was distributed by taking into account some large scale trends going on in the nation—referring to the November 1999 issue of *Monthly Labor Review*<sup>3</sup> which projects U.S. employment through 2008. In essence, the proportion of jobs in the service sector was increased in the Indianapolis projections based on trends at the national level; and the proportion of jobs in the manufacturing sector was decreased. Slight adjustments were made also in other economic sectors as well.

The projections indicate net growth over the 25 years but, in fact, that growth peaks in about 2010, after which employment begins to decline slightly as the large baby boom generation retires and a smaller labor force cohort follows. While there are many ways to adjust such projections based on different assumptions and scenarios, national and local trends strongly suggest that net employment growth after about 2010 will be very difficult under prevailing characteristics of the labor force.

Staying within this scenario, employment in Marion County would also peak in about 2010 at about 66% of the region's employment. The projected decline in Marion County, however, would be at a faster rate than for the region as a whole because of a slower rate of population (thus, labor force) growth in Marion County compared to the rest of the region. By 2025, therefore, Marion County jobs would have decreased to below 2000 levels at about 59% of all jobs in the metro area.

Again, it is important to emphasize that these projections are based on prevailing trends and the prevailing relationships between key variables (e.g., the relationship of population to housing and the relationship of population to employment). Different assumptions about these trends and relationships can cause different projections. A purpose of the projections is to identify where the prevailing trends might lead. But those do not have to be the prevailing trends in the future. Changes in public policies and private actions can be made in order to encourage a different pattern of behavior.

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Labor.

<b>JOHNSON COUNTY</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2025</b>
Population	115,515	123,680	128,610	132,706	136,408	150,128
<b>% of Metro Population</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Total full- and part-time employment	56,738	61,642	64,099	65,182	66,053	70,787
<b>Employment per Capita</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.47</b>
<b>% of Metro Employment</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>
Farm employment	652	603	578	567	558	510
Nonfarm employment	56,086	61,039	63,521	64,615	65,495	70,277
Ag. serv., forestry, fishing, and other	476	518	539	548	556	596
Mining	75	78	83	84	85	91
Construction	4,354	4,823	4,977	5,065	5,133	5,499
Manufacturing	7,737	8,350	8,653	8,787	8,893	9,469
Transportation and public utilities	1,515	1,678	1,732	1,765	1,787	1,915
Wholesale trade	1,394	1,489	1,565	1,587	1,611	1,726
Retail trade	17,364	19,620	20,859	21,395	21,816	24,265
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3,625	3,908	4,083	4,149	4,206	4,507
Services	16,118	18,165	19,231	19,708	20,096	22,262
Government and government enterprises	5,627	5,763	5,810	5,827	5,838	5,868

Currently the Retail Trade Sector provides the largest share of jobs in Johnson County (30%), followed closely by the services sector (28%). That trend is projected to continue to 2025, with the retail sector still projected to provide the most jobs in Johnson County, (34%) followed by the service sector (31%). It is worth noting that service and retail sector employees typically do not receive the level of benefits that have been offered in other sectors (industry, government, etc.). Retail and service sector jobs also often come with non-traditional hours, which points to a need to offer programming times that are not geared only to people working the typical Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM hours.

Greenwood Park and Recreation Master Plan 2002 - 2006

## f. Race and Culture

According to 2000 Census figures, the minority population of City of Greenwood equals only 3.5% of the total population.

<b>2000 CENSUS</b>								
		<b>Persons Reporting 1 Race Only</b>					<b>&gt;2 races</b>	<b>2 races</b>
<b>Greenwood</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Other</b>		
<b>Total</b>	36,037	35,771	34,790	159	490	332	266	253
<b>%</b>	100.0%	99.3%	96.5%	0.4%	1.4%	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%
<b>Johnson Co.</b>								
<b>Total</b>	115,209	114,459	111,796	914	962	787	750	712
<b>%</b>	100.0%	99.3%	97.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%

People of Hispanic origin (of any race) are the fastest-growing segment of the population nationally, and this trend is also true locally. The Hispanic population in Greenwood grew by 208% between 1990 and the 2000 Census. The small relative numbers of the Hispanic population (687 people or 1.9% of Greenwood's population) indicates that while there appears to be no great demand yet for special considerations, such as Spanish language materials, the future will likely require more accommodation for the growing Hispanic population.

<b>Hispanic Population</b>					
	<b>2000 CENSUS</b>		<b>1990 CENSUS</b>		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of total population</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of total population</b>	<b>% Change 1990 – 2000</b>
					<b>Rank by % change</b>

<b>Greenwood</b>	687	1.9%	223	0.8%	208.1%	132 (among Indiana's cities & towns)
<b>Johnson Co.</b>	1591	1.4%	627	0.7%	153.7%	37 (among Indiana's counties)

## 2. Man-Made and Cultural Influences

Beyond the choice of recreation type, the physical impact of activities on the land affects where recreation can and should occur. Man-made influences, such as transportation facilities and the location of new development influence the actions of the citizens, and are important planning considerations for recreation.

### a. Historical/Cultural Influences

Historical and cultural features can be highlights of a park and recreation system. These features might include historically significant sites, houses, farm buildings and historical roads. Historic properties can often be linked with recreation facilities.

Greenwood has one building listed on the Indiana State Register of Historic Sites and Structures. The Grafton-Peek Building, built in 1887, is located at 181 S. Madison Ave., and was added to the State's register in 1986. While there are no National Historic Landmarks in Greenwood (or Johnson County), the Greenwood Commercial Historic District, 172 – 332 W. Main, and 147 – 211 S. Madison, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This historic building and historic commercial area is located downtown, and could be easily linked to Craig Park through a walking tour.

Some other features that may affect the park system and recreation opportunities include utility corridors, churches, schools and daycare centers. In addition to the importance of linking these community facilities through use of a trail system, other uses should also be considered. The Parks Department could continue to enter into partnerships to use schools (as they already do with Greenwood Community Schools) or explore new partnerships with churches for community centers, and the department could pursue possibilities of developing new schools as park/school complexes (as they have already done with Northeast Park/School). Other opportunities to be investigated include the development of recreation facilities with other agencies and businesses, such as a community center at the Greenwood Park Mall.

## **b. Transportation & Circulation**

The quality and extent of transportation facilities that provide access to the City of Greenwood and the areas surrounding it have a significant effect on the use of its parks and other recreational areas.

The speed of transportation connects the world of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century into one global unit where parcels can be delivered overnight to any place in the world. Within the United States this speed is transformed into a complex circulation network covering the land, air and water. This circulation system affects the location of recreational facilities both by determining the geographical distribution of the population and by setting limits on the types of recreation that are compatible with transportation generated noise.

### **1) Vehicular Transportation**

In the 1830's, Greenwood's proximity to Madison Road (now Madison Ave. and U.S. Hwy. 431) encouraged development, since the road was the primary access to Indianapolis from the south part of the state. Roads are still the primary means of travel within Greenwood. Both Greenwood and Johnson County have adopted Thoroughfare Plans, as part of their community comprehensive plans. These thoroughfare plans include a functional classification system for roadways, and show desired future roads and connections.

Primary interstate access to the City of Greenwood is provided by I-65, with regional linkages to the State Capital of Indianapolis to the north. I-65 provides for direct access to both Indianapolis and Louisville. Of special note is the completion in 1999 of a new interchange at I-65 and County Line Road. Prompted by the addition of the new interchange, County Line Road was improved to be five lanes from Arlington Avenue all the way west of State Road 135.

The other existing "Greenwood" interstate interchange is located at I-65 and Main Street. City Officials have met with the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation, and believe that within 6 to 10 years there may be another new interchange at 700N and I-65.

U.S. Highway 31 also provides access for more regional and local vehicular trips, particularly due to the location of the Greenwood Park Mall on U.S. Hwy. 31. For more information on other major streets in Greenwood (arterials and collectors) consult the listing in the City of Greenwood's Comprehensive Plan.

City officials have also met with Johnson County Commissioners to discuss an east/west corridor, to relieve congestion on Main Street and I-65.

## **2) Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation**

As the area with the largest potential for growth within the community, the City of Greenwood already contains a comprehensive sidewalk system, which provides connections within the "Olde Town Greenwood" area, as well as within newer subdivisions throughout the City. There are still many links that need to be made within this system for it to provide optimum use to the citizens. Bicycle lanes do not currently exist on any of the City's streets, which in many cases are currently too narrow to support a bike lane. It should be noted that a previous attempt by the City to introduce a pedestrian/bicycle trail system met with failure.

## **3) Railroads**

Railroads have played a role in recreational planning in the past. But as railroad use continues to decline and railroad companies reduce rail traffic or consolidate lines, abandoned railway corridors hold vast opportunities for recreation in many communities. Greenwood does not have any abandoned rail lines.

## **4) Air**

The Greenwood Municipal Airport is located on the south side of County Line Road, just west of I-65. The airport can support the landing of corporate jets.

### **c. Local Development Trends**

Greenwood has experienced record-setting growth in recent years. During 2000, the Planning Department issued almost 1000 building permits, with over half of them for new single-family residential construction. For purposes of building permits, the value of new construction was placed at over \$121,400,000. Much of the new commercial and industrial growth is located on the East Side of I-65, which was “voluntarily” annexed into the City. Annexation has accounted for much of Greenwood’s growth over the past decade.

# **CHAPTER 3 – PARKS & RECREATION BOARD/ CITY RECREATION PROFILE**



### III. PARK & RECREATION BOARD/CITY RECREATION PROFILE

#### A. HISTORY OF GREENWOOD PARKS

Brothers John and Isaac Smock originally settled Greenwood in 1823. Greenwood was originally known as Smock's settlement before being named Greenfield. In 1833 it was discovered that another Greenfield existed in Hancock County, and the name was changed to Greenwood.

The Greenwood, Indiana Park Board was established in 1960, and then was subsequently reestablished in 1983 by passage of Ordinance No. 83-13 by the Greenwood Common Council, in order to comply with Indiana Code 36-10-3-1, et.seq.

There are four members on the Greenwood Park Board. The Mayor appoints bi-partisan members to four-year staggered terms. The year 2000 park board benefited from over 50 years of combined park board experience. In 2001, two of the long-time park board members "retired" and one resigned due to a move out of the City, and the resulting 2001 board contains three new members.

The oldest park currently in the system is not surprisingly, "Old City Park".

#### B. CITY OF GREENWOOD PARK INVENTORY

Existing City of Greenwood park sites are described below, based on observations made by park staff and the consultant while touring the Greenwood Park System. Parks have been classified by type, based on **SCORP 2001 – 2004** guidelines. Consultants completed an Indiana Recreation Facilities Inventory Update form, from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation, for each park site. Those results are summarized below:

## **MINI PARKS**

**Purpose:** To provide protected areas for children in residential areas, and space and activities for families and elderly.

**Character:** High use capacity and access are the important qualities of this park classification. Good drainage and level land are important for high usage. Pedestrian access can be encouraged by not allowing roads or other physical barriers between residents and park.

**Undeveloped Land:** 10 – 20 percent of total park area.

**Service Area:** Five-minute walking time radius.

**Size:** ¼ - 5 acres.

### **Facilities and Activities:**

1. Playground
2. Shelter (s)
3. Greenspace
4. Sitting / Picnicking Area
5. Court Area: Basketball, Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, Tennis
6. Walking Paths

<b>CHILDREN'S GARDEN PARK</b>	<b>Located adjacent to Surina Square in downtown</b>
Property Acreage:	2 acres
Convenience Facilities:	N/A
Picnic & Play Areas:	N/A
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A
Outdoor Courts:	N/A
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	Park opened in 1998, ornamental fountain and lights, Gazebo, benches, trellis

<b>TRAILS PARK (formerly Molter Park)</b>		<b>Located off Fry Rd at entrance to Whispering Trails Subdivision (Covered Bridge Rd)</b>	
Property Acreage:	2 acres		
Convenience Facilities:	N/A		
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Tables, Playground		
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A		
Outdoor Courts:	N/A		
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A		
Water Based Recreation:	Storm water retention area		
Overnight Facilities:	N/A		
Large Group Facilities:	N/A		
Winter Sports:	N/A		
Hunting:	N/A		
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail		
Other:	Park donated in 1979. Benches, grill		

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**

**Purpose:** To provide active and passive recreation facilities for all ages within walking distance to urban neighborhoods.

**Character:** High use capacity and access characterize this park classification. Good drainage, open areas and rolling to level land support high use. Minimal road, terrain and structural barriers encourage access to the park by residents.

**Undeveloped Land:** 15 – 30 percent of total park area, including support acreage.

**Service Area:** Twenty-minute walking time radius.

**Size:** 5 – 50 acres.

**Special Features:** Develop in conjunction with school grounds whenever feasible.

### **Facilities and Activities:**

1. Playgrounds
2. Playfields
3. Recreation Building/Community Center
4. Swimming
5. Skateboard Area
6. Greenspace, Wooded Areas
7. Walking Pat

<b>NORTHEAST PARK</b>		<b>Located west of and adjacent to Northeast Elementary School</b>
Property Acreage:	19 acres	
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (in shelter) (Handicapped accessible)	
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 2, Picnic Tables, Playground (all Handicapped accessible)	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 1 (lighted), Soccer = 4	
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1 (lighted), Tennis = 2 (lighted), Horseshoes = 1	
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A	
Water Based Recreation:	N/A	
Overnight Facilities:	N/A	
Large Group Facilities:	N/A	
Winter Sports:	N/A	
Hunting:	N/A	
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail	
Other:	Built in 1979. Benches, grills. Tennis courts being converted to temporary skateboard park	
<b>NORTHWEST PARK</b>		<b>Located adjacent to</b>
Property Acreage:	10 acres	
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (Handicapped accessible)	
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 1 (Handicapped accessible), Playground	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A	
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1 ½	
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A	
Water Based Recreation:	Pedestrian bridge over Creek	
Overnight Facilities:	N/A	
Large Group Facilities:	N/A	
Winter Sports:	N/A	
Hunting:	N/A	
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail, natural paths in wooded areas	
Other:	Gazebo, grills	

<b>NORTHWEST PARK ANNEX</b>	<b>Located adjacent to Northwest Park</b>
Property Acreage:	20 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (Handicapped accessible)
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 1, Picnic Tables
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1 ½
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	Pedestrian Bridge over Pleasant Run Creek
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	Appropriate for cross-country skiing
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail
Other:	Park opened in 1998, grills, benches, passive use
<b>OLD CITY PARK</b>	<b>Located E of Madison Ave and S of Pleasant Creek, north of Library</b>
Property Acreage:	5 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (in maintenance facility)
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 2, Playground = 1 (Handicapped accessible)
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Football (multi-purpose) = 1 (lighted)
Outdoor Courts:	Tennis = 2 (lighted), Horseshoe = 3 (lighted)
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	Pleasant Run Creek with 2 pedestrian bridges
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	Oldest park in system. benches, grills

<b>POOL PARK</b>		<b>Located south of Lincoln Street and east of Beechwood Drive, near downtown</b>
Property Acreage:	5 acres	
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (in shelter), showers (Handicapped accessible)	
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 1, Picnic Tables, Playground	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A	
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1, Volleyball = 2, Tennis Courts = 2	
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A	
Water Based Recreation:	50 meter outdoor swimming pool, diving well, kiddie pool, Pleasant Creek along SW corner	
Overnight Facilities:	N/A	
Large Group Facilities:	N/A	
Winter Sports:	N/A	
Hunting:	N/A	
Trails & Paths:	N/A	
Other:	Pool built in 1950's, changing area not handicapped accessible	
<b>SUMMERFIELD PARK</b>		<b>Located within the Summerfield Crossing Subdivision on the City's south side</b>
Property Acreage:	16 acres	
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (Handicapped accessible)	
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Tables, Playground = 2 (Handicap accessible)	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	2 Soccer, 1 softball, 1 multi-purpose	
Outdoor Courts:	1 basketball, 2 tennis courts by summer 2002	
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A	
Water Based Recreation:	Pedestrian bridge over County drainage ditch	
Overnight Facilities:	N/A	
Large Group Facilities:	N/A	
Winter Sports:	Suitable for cross-country skiing	
Hunting:	N/A	
Trails & Paths:	N/A	
Other:	Park donated in 1999, facilities completed summer 2001. Propose accessible Picnic Shelter.	

<b>SURINA SQUARE</b>	<b>Located adjacent to Craig Park</b>
Property Acreage:	8 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Restrooms and locker rooms inside Community Center
Picnic & Play Areas:	N/A
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A
Outdoor Courts:	N/A
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	Amphitheater for up to 1000 people, Community Center
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	2 gyms in Community Center
<b>WESTSIDE PARK</b>	<b>West of U.S. 31 near intersection of W. Main &amp; Howard Rd. (next to Sanitation Plant)</b>
Property Acreage:	26 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (Handicapped accessible),
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 1, Picnic Tables, Playground
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 1 (lighted)
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1 (lighted), Tennis = 2 (lighted)
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	Pleasant Creek with two pedestrian bridges
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail (walking, jogging)
Other:	Wooded area, benches, grills



<b>WOODMEN PARK</b>	<b>Located adjacent to</b>
Property Acreage:	14 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (handicapped accessible)
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 1, Playground (all handicapped accessible)
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 2 , Soccer = 1
Outdoor Courts:	Sand Volleyball = 1
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	Drinking fountains, benches, grills

## **COMMUNITY PARKS**

**Purpose:** To provide an active recreation area with some managed undeveloped land to support continued, heavy use.

**Character:** Variety and high use capacity are important qualities of this park classification. Moderate slopes, rolling landforms and partial tree cover provides variety. Good drainage, stable soil, and relatively level land promote high use. May include sports complexes for activities such as softball, baseball and soccer.

**Undeveloped Land:** 20 – 40 percent of total park area, including support acreage.

**Service Area:** Fifteen-minute driving time radius.

**Size:** 100 – 400 acres.

### **Facilities and Activities:**

1. Picnicking
2. Golf
3. Winter
4. Playgrounds
5. Playfields
6. Trails: Hiking, Bicycle, Bridle
7. Water Recreation: Swimming Pool, Fishing, Boating
8. Nature Study Area
9. Nature Center

***Note: Craig Park functions as a Community Park despite its low acreage due to proximity to other amenities.***

<b>CRAIG PARK</b>		<b>Located N of Smith Valley Rd. and W of Meridian St., next to Our Lady of Greenwood</b>	
Property Acreage:	27 acres		
Convenience Facilities:	Flush (in shelter)		
Picnic & Play Areas:	Picnic Shelters = 2 (Handicapped accessible), Picnic Tables, Playground (Hand. accessible)		
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 2 (lighted), adjacent to privately owned Little League Complex		
Outdoor Courts:	Tennis = 5 (lighted), Volleyball		
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A		
Water Based Recreation:	N/A		
Overnight Facilities:	N/A		
Large Group Facilities:	N/A		
Winter Sports:	N/A		
Hunting:	N/A		
Trails & Paths:	Internal multi-use trail		
Other:	Garden area with seating, Gazebo, wooded area		

Each of these types of parks represents an important element in Greenwood's park system. The community park is no less significant than the block park, particularly in Greenwood's residential neighborhoods, where the block park may be the only recreation area readily accessible.

## **SCHOOL SITES**

The City of Greenwood is in the unusual situation of being served by three separate school corporations: Center Grove Community School Corporation, Greenwood Community School Corporation, and Clark-Pleasant Community School Corporation. In addition to the public schools, there are also private school facilities in Greenwood: Our Lady of Greenwood School, Greenwood Christian School and Montessori School of Greenwood. Making use of school sites saves on capital expenditures (and taxes), more effectively uses facilities, and reduces the need for park and open space land. However, use of school facilities must not be done without consideration of the school's right to primary access of their facilities, and maintenance and security responsibilities. The Greenwood Parks Department has worked hard to forge cooperation with local schools, and has been successful in obtaining use of these Greenwood Community Schools Corporation facilities:

<b>GREENWOOD H.S.</b>	<b>South of Smith Valley Road</b>
Property Acreage:	25 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Restrooms and locker rooms inside building
Picnic & Play Areas:	N/A
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 4, Baseball = 2, Football = 1
Outdoor Courts:	Tennis = 8 (lighted), Indoor Volleyball = 1
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	Indoor pool
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	Auditorium and Gymnasium
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	Running track
Other:	2 gyms are also available
<b>GREENWOOD M.S.</b>	<b>East of Madison Ave. and South of Main Street</b>
Property Acreage:	2 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Restrooms and locker rooms inside building
Picnic & Play Areas:	N/A
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Football = 1
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 1, Indoor Volleyball = 1
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	Auditorium/Gymnasium
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	Outdoor Running Track
Other:	2 gyms also available

<b>ISOM ELEMENTARY</b>	<b>East of Old Meridian St. and North of Main St.</b>
Property Acreage:	2 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Restrooms and locker rooms inside building
Picnic & Play Areas:	Playground
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	N/A
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 2
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	1 gym/auditorium is also available
<b>NORTHEAST ELEM.</b>	<b>South of County Line Rd. and East of Crestview Dr.</b>
Property Acreage:	8 acres
Convenience Facilities:	Restrooms and locker rooms inside building
Picnic & Play Areas:	Playground
Outdoor Athletic Fields:	Softball = 1
Outdoor Courts:	Basketball = 3
Golf Courses & Ranges:	N/A
Water Based Recreation:	N/A
Overnight Facilities:	N/A
Large Group Facilities:	N/A
Winter Sports:	N/A
Hunting:	N/A
Trails & Paths:	N/A
Other:	1 gym/auditorium is also available

<b>SW ELEMENTARY</b>		<b>East of Old Meridian St. and North of Main St.</b>	
Property Acreage:		8 acres	
Convenience Facilities:		Restrooms and locker rooms inside building	
Picnic & Play Areas:		Playground	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:		Softball = 2	
Outdoor Courts:		Basketball = 3	
Golf Courses & Ranges:		N/A	
Water Based Recreation:		N/A	
Overnight Facilities:		N/A	
Large Group Facilities:		N/A	
Winter Sports:		N/A	
Hunting:		N/A	
Trails & Paths:		N/A	
Other:		1 gym/auditorium is also available	
<b>WESTWOOD ELEM.</b>		<b>South of Smith Valley Rd. and West of US 31</b>	
Property Acreage:		20+/- acres	
Convenience Facilities:		Restrooms and locker rooms inside building	
Picnic & Play Areas:		N/A	
Outdoor Athletic Fields:		N/A	
Outdoor Courts:		N/A	
Golf Courses & Ranges:		N/A	
Water Based Recreation:		N/A	
Overnight Facilities:		N/A	
Large Group Facilities:		N/A	
Winter Sports:		N/A	
Hunting:		N/A	
Trails & Paths:		N/A	
Other:		1 gym/auditorium is also available	

Insert Park Location Map

Insert Park Location Map



### **PRIVATELY OWNED RECREATION SITES**

The Little League Ball Diamonds are privately owned, and contain 8 lighted fields. Valle Vista Golf Club has an 18-hole golf course, 5 tennis courts, 4 racquetball courts, and an indoor/outdoor swimming pool. There are several other golf facilities serving Greenwood: Orchard Golf Center is a Par-3 Course and Driving Range, Otte Center is a Par-3 Course and Driving Range, and Smock Golf Course is an Indy Parks 18-hole championship course. There is also a private pay fishing lake in Greenwood. Several fitness clubs serve the Greenwood population, including Gold's Gym, and Bailey's Scandinavian Fitness Club. Ladies Only moved just over the Marion County line, but still serves the Greenwood population.

### **REGIONAL RECREATION**

There are several other active Park and Recreation Departments in Johnson County that offer a variety of park sites and leisure activities. Of particular interest to Greenwood residents are the trail systems. The City of Franklin has a Parks and Recreation Department, which is currently developing the Historic Franklin Greenway Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, the existing paved segment is 2.3 miles long, and an additional 1.4 miles is in the planning stages. Johnson County's Park boasts five existing trails (1 paved trail allows off-road bicycles; the remaining four trails are unpaved), totaling 3.92 miles, camping, a playground, and an amphitheater.

Of special note is the Atterbury State Fish and Wildlife Area, containing over 5000 acres of upland game habitat and 200 acres of marsh and impoundment's. Atterbury is located 30 miles south of Greenwood, in southwestern Johnson County, where the wildlife area is adjacent to an additional 35,000 acres of land (part located in Bartholomew County) used by the Indiana National Guard. When not being used by the Guard, those "Camp Atterbury" acres are also available for hunting and fishing.

According to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the primary function of a fish and wildlife area, "is to manage and perpetuate wildlife for hunting and fishing purposes. Increasingly, these areas provide significant opportunities for wildlife observation and photography. Other forms of recreation are less emphasized because they are often in conflict with the environment required to sustain the desired level of wildlife."

## C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

### 1. General Condition of Park System

#### a. Budget

In 2000, the City of Greenwood had an actual park budget of \$791,112 to serve a population of 36,037, an expenditure of approximately \$21.95 per city resident.

	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1992</b>
<b>Projected Expense Budget</b>	\$1,015,930	\$954,479	\$903,599	\$847,787	\$788,956	\$789,471	\$730,581	\$712,503	\$595,483
<b>Actual Expense</b>	\$976,188	\$930,610	\$893,488	\$799,026	\$775,495	\$744,946	\$649,002	\$681,959	\$556,039
<b>Park, Pool &amp; Com. Center Receipts</b>	\$176,693	\$163,613	\$153,978	\$164,946	\$164,523	\$168,757	\$149,375	\$145,188	\$82,554
<b>Interest Accrued on Park &amp; Rec. Fund CD's</b>	\$8,383	\$7,096	\$10,325	\$13,985	\$19,559	\$22,001	\$16,623	\$9,319	\$3,541
<b>Net Budget (Actual)</b>	<b>\$791,112</b>	<b>\$759,902</b>	<b>\$729,185</b>	<b>\$620,095</b>	<b>\$591,413</b>	<b>\$554,188</b>	<b>\$483,004</b>	<b>\$527,453</b>	<b>\$469,945</b>

The City of Greenwood maintains a special non-reverting Park and Recreation Fund. In 2000, the beginning cash balance was \$ 1,452,517, which included a carryover balance from 1999 of \$47,698. This fund includes personal property income tax monies, license excise tax monies, interest on investments, income from the pool, shelter and facility rental, and community center income.

#### **b. Capital Improvements**

Since the City of Greenwood does not use a capital budget procedure to plan for large capital expenditures. Capital expenditures must be included in annual budget requests by the Parks Department. Major capital improvement expenditures were concentrated on the aging pool in 2000, where \$34,798 was spent for maintenance and repairs. The pool has been a major drain on the department's annual capital budget requests, using \$16,779 in 1999, \$5,300 in 1998, and \$11,274 in 1997. As an option to the current budgeting, the City could consider implementing a capital budget plan as a more effective way to plan for large capital outlays.

#### **c. Other Funding**

Like many communities, the City of Greenwood has looked beyond local tax dollars and has succeeded in winning many different sources for funding.

##### ***Grants:***

***Build Indiana Funds*** have also been available in the past for communities to make local improvements. In March 2001, the City of Greenwood was notified that the budget conference committee would award the following Build Indiana Funds, subject to approval:

- \$10,000 to Parks Department
- \$100,000 for Amphitheater
- \$80,000 for Craig Park for a walking/biking loop trail
- \$65,000 for walking/biking trail in Northwest Park and Northwest Annex Park

A total of \$255,000 of ***Build Indiana Funds*** was tentatively awarded to the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department in 2001. \$50,000 of ***Build Indiana Funds*** was awarded in 1997 for development of Northwest Annex Park and \$150,000 was awarded for land acquisition in 1999 for Northwest Annex Park, which has not yet been used. As with any legislative funding,

future allocations unknown.

In 1995, Greenwood was awarded \$19,500 in federal funds from the Small Business Administration Tree Planting Grant Program. This unusual grant allowed the parks department to plant over 200 trees in city parks.

### ***Public-Private Partnerships & “In-Kind” Donations***

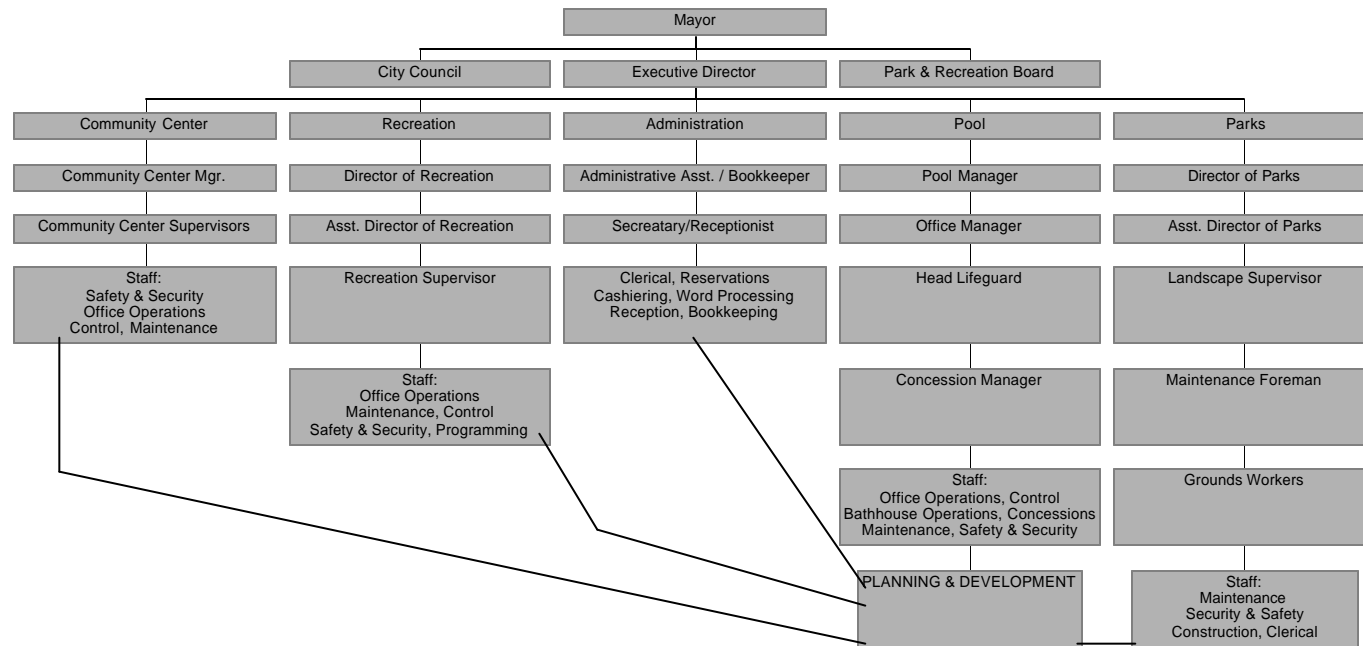
For many park departments, public-private partnerships can be very rewarding. Often the private sector becomes a park land donor (Summerfield Park, Trails Park, Woodland Park and 15 acres of Northwest Park Annex), and Greenwood has been fortunate in this manner. Greenwood has also benefited from opportunities like Saturn of Greenwood's “adoption” of the Craig Park playground, which they completely renovated in 1997 with assistance from community volunteers (value = \$30,000), and Sprint's year 2001 contribution for Summerfield Park's playground (value = \$13,500). Notable also was the community effort to construct an amphitheater, largely through private donations. Thanks to community support, the amphitheater is open for use in June 2001. The schools have also been great partners in the development of the City's parks, through their generous donation of student efforts (ranging from Central 9 Vocational School Students to Greenwood Community Schools elementary students).

### ***Impact Fees***

Greenwood successfully used a program of Park Impact Fees to fund park development until passage of new state enabling legislation in 1992, when the City's ordinance became non-compliant. Over the years, Greenwood raised thousands of dollars from new construction to fund improvements in the City's four different park districts. In recognition of Greenwood's rapid growth, the City should consider adopting a program of park impact fees.

#### d. Personnel

In 2000, the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department employed over 200 people as full-time, part-time or seasonal workers.



## **e. Programs**

Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of programs, highlighted in their Program “FUN” Guide that went from an annual publication to being published twice in 2000. Participation is noted for the Year 2000:

### **Special Community Events**

- Easter Egg Hunt = 450 participants
- Picnic in the Park = 120 participants
- Punt, Pass & Kick = 60
- Halloween Party = 900
- Letters from Santa = 55
- RECESS DAY (MLK Day) = 52
- RECESS DAY (Great Americans) = 48
- Family Turkey Shoot = 40
- Hershey Track & Field Meet = 82
- Self-Protection Clinics = 14

### **Children and Youth**

- Summer FUN Camp = 86 (double 1999's attendance)
- Spring Break Activities = 192
- Fall Break Activities = 50
- Christmas Break Activities = 75
- Winter Break Activities = 42
- Summer Soccer Camp = 65
- Youth Volleyball Camp = 12
- Spring Soccer = 280
- Fall Soccer = 264
- Youth Basketball = 390
- Youth Tennis = 3
- Latch-Key Program = average monthly participation of 55
- Tumbling for Tots/Creative Movement = average session participation of 25
- Kids Klub = 18
- Cookie Monsters = 7
- Tot Playgroup = average session participation of 124

### **Adult**

- Winter Co-ed Volleyball = 70
- Fall Co-ed Volleyball = 60
- Men's Singles Tennis = 7
- Women's Singles Tennis = 6
- Men's Doubles Tennis = 14
- Tennis Tournaments = 621
- Tennis Lessons = 120
- Fall Softball = 660
- Summer Softball = 1,420
- Open Gym = 2,010
- Winter Basketball = 168
- Fall Basketball = 116
- Winter Aquatics (Lap Swim) = 8
- Water Aerobics = 270
- Aerobics = 3,432
- Yoga = 27
- Creative Arts = 66
- Seniors Breakfast Club = average monthly participation of 33

### **Pool**

Attendance at the pool in 2000 was 27,686, down from 1999's 30,265 and 1998's 33,180. This decline may be attributed partly to the temperature never exceeding 90 degrees during the 101 days of operation, but may partially be due to an aging facility. Over 1,000 children and youth participated in swimming lessons, through a partnership with the American Red Cross.

### **Community Center**

Total attendance figure for 2000 was a record setting 101,593 people, and increase of over 20,576 from 1999 (25% increase). Average daily attendance at the community center in 2000 was 284 people, ranging from a high of 376 in February to a low of 233 in both July and September.

## **2. Maintenance/Operations**

A tour of the Greenwood Park System by the consultants and staff was conducted in March 2001. Park staff explained the various facilities and their general maintenance needs. The parks are well maintained and generally in good condition.

Maintenance of grounds and facilities is a basic function of a park system. The level of maintenance planning and execution is the key to successful operation of a park system.

The main emphasis of maintenance is the daily and recurrent care, cleaning, replenishment, and grooming of activity apparatus, areas, and facilities. The level of maintenance should be such to provide a consistent progressive image of the parks.

One approach to ensure a consistent quality image of the parks is to employ a method called Site Maintenance Planning, The goal of which is to achieve long term built project success.

To understand the need for site maintenance planning one must first consider the typical life cycle of a developed site.

Four specific phases in a project's life cycle must work together if a built development is to be successful. The four phases include design, installation, inspection and maintenance. Long term management and maintenance problems can occur if deficiencies are present in any one or more phases. Consider the following:

Design - Poor design solutions, which do not adequately address site use, will create maintenance problems.

Installation - An incorrectly or poorly installed site design will create long term problems even if the original design is well conceived. If a design is poorly conceived and poorly installed, problems will be magnified.

Inspection - If timely inspections are not conducted the likelihood of incorrect installation occurring increases. Also, field and change order considerations based on field condition adjustments cannot be appropriately addressed.

Maintenance - If not maintained, a well conceived, installed and inspected site design will fail over time.



All four phases must work together to achieve success.

#### **D. RECREATION NEEDS ANALYSIS**

Several means were used in order to analyze several aspects of recreational needs. Public input is one such method that proves to be a valuable component of understanding the recreational needs of a community. A community's desired recreational interests may not always be consistent with regional recreational standards. Therefore, public input helps to define the recreational needs at a more site-specific scale. For this project, two different mechanisms of public input were utilized: a public meeting and a public survey.

##### **1. Meeting Summary**

The first public meeting was conducted on March 20, 2001. Thirty-one people attended the meeting located at the meeting room in the City of Greenwood's Community Center. The general comments from the meeting were as follows:

##### **Park Acquisition**

There was general agreement from most people in attendance that acquisition of new parkland is needed, but citizens were concerned that property rights be preserved (parkland should not be acquired through eminent domain). Attendants also thought that new development should pay for the additional parkland. Some people thought that more information is needed before they could determine what the city's park acquisition needs are.

##### **Financing of Parkland**

Citizens did not understand the use of bonding to purchase parkland. They inquired about sponsorship/fundraising and privatization.

##### **What Facilities are Needed?**

Attendees suggested a separate meeting to discuss the need for a family aquatic facility. Walking and biking trails were suggested although several attendees were against trails adjacent to their property. It was agreed that all facilities need to be handicap accessible (sidewalks, etc...). There was some interest in a skateboard park/facilities, and the Executive Director informed those present that the City was already planning such a facility. Other suggestions included more playground

facilities for tots, a dog park, and fishing facilities.

### **Park Appearance**

Those present agreed that Greenwood's parks are in good condition, and that they are proud of the parks. It was suggested that beautification of various public spaces throughout the city would be nice.

### **Park Safety**

Citizens agreed that the City should continue to patrol parks, and monitor vehicular/pedestrian conflicts. There were some prior issues with Westside Park after dark (regarding perception of safety).

### **Programming**

It was suggested that more structured programming could be offered at remote parks, such as Pool Park and neighborhood parks. Another suggestion included more lunch time activities (during the workday). Also, there was a request for more free programs, but citizens were unable to provide suggestions about who would pay for the free programs.

## **2. Survey Summary**

A one-page questionnaire was distributed to approximately 13,000 households in Greenwood, as part of a mailing sent by the Mayor. Additional copies were available at the Community Center. The survey consisted of questions covering various recreation issues within the City, including park use, maintenance and appearance, possible improvements, and funding. Over 400 surveys were returned. A tabulation of the results is located in the appendix. The results of the survey are summarized below:

**Additional Parkland:** Over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of respondents agreed that the City of Greenwood needs more parkland.

**Bond Issue:** Almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of respondents said they would support a City bond issue to buy more parkland.

**Type of Land Acquired:** Almost ¾ of those responding favored acquiring land for passive use (conservation, picnicking, hiking), as opposed to land for active use.

**Community Park:** 2/3 of respondents said the City should acquire land for a large community park.

**Park Features to be Expanded:** When asked which features they would like to see expanded (improved) in existing park facilities, the following ranking was received:

- |                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Trails (258)                | 10. Community Center (115)      |
| 2. Nature Areas (245)          | 11. Basketball Courts (87)      |
| 3. Restrooms (245)             | 12. Overall Maintenance (75)    |
| 4. Swimming Pool (229)         | 13. Volleyball Courts (65)      |
| 5. Picnic Areas (202)          | 14. Ball Diamonds (59)          |
| 6. Trees/Landscaping (189)     | 15. Tennis Courts (57)          |
| 7. Playground Structures (165) | 16. Soccer Fields (50)          |
| 8. Shelters & Gazebos (161)    | 17. Horseshoe/Shuffleboard (43) |
| 9. Open Space Areas (142)      |                                 |

**Attractiveness of Parks:** Well over half of respondents ranked Greenwood's Parks as "attractive", as opposed to very attractive, fair or unattractive.

**Perceived Safety in Parks:** Well over half of respondents ranked Greenwood's Parks as "safe", as opposed to very safe, fairly safe or unsafe.

**Maintenance of Parks:** Two-thirds of respondents ranked the maintenance of Greenwood's Parks as "good", as opposed to excellent, fair or poor (there were no rankings of poor).

**Awareness of Programs and Facilities:** Almost ½ of those responding said they considered themselves to be "informed" about Parks and Recreation programs and facilities, while approximately 1/3 of the respondents said they were "fairly informed".

**New Parks and Recreation Development:** Respondents ranked desired new park development as follows:

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Walking/Biking Trails (138) | 4. Enlarge Community Center (44) |
| 2. New Pool (93)               | 5. Bike/Skateboard Park (31)     |
| 3. Additional Park Land (77)   | 6. Sports Field Complex (22)     |

**Paying for New Park Development:** Respondents split over using local taxes or park user fees to pay for new parks.

**Should Greenwood Offer More Programs?** Slightly more than half of the respondents thought that the Parks and Recreation Department should offer more programs.

### **3. National Recreational Trends**

#### **A. NSGA's 1999 Study**

Trend analysis is important for all types of planning. One of the most recent national studies of recreational trends was done for the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) in 1999. That survey, based on a sampling of 15,000 U. S. households, identified frequent, occasional and infrequent participation. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources also completed a survey of over 7,000 people in 1998, but since IDNR's 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey was not a statistical sample, it was not used as the primary source of trend information (although the results are still valuable).

According to NSGA's recently released study, exercise walking was America's most popular activity among the 60 sports, recreation and fitness activities surveyed. In 1999, exercise walking had 80.8 million participants, while swimming drew 57.9 million participants. The survey cited the top 10 most popular sports and recreation activities as follows:

- |                     |                              |               |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Exercise Walking | 5. Exercising with Equipment | 9. Basketball |
| 2. Swimming         | 6. Bicycle Riding            | 10. Hiking    |
| 3. Camping          | 7. Bowling                   |               |
| 4. Fishing          | 8. Billiards/Pool            |               |

Long one of the United State's new growth sports, inline skating experienced its first drop in participation, falling 11% in 1999, ranking it as the 14th most popular sport in the country. Among team sports, basketball, baseball, tackle football and soccer grew, while volleyball showed the steepest decline. The number of people working out at clubs declined to 24.1 million in 1999 versus 26.5 million in 1998.

## **B. Conclusions for Greenwood**

How do these trends relate to the future of the Greenwood Parks and Recreation system? Exercise walking's number one ranking supports the development of a community-wide trail system for Greenwood. Walking/hiking/jogging was also the number one activity selected by Indiana residents, when answering the 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey question, "Which outdoor recreation activities you would be MOST likely to participate in if adequate facilities were available?" and "What outdoor recreation activity (ies) did you participate in regularly last year?" (multiple responses were allowed).

Trail and greenway networks can serve a multitude of functions, providing access to nature, connections between parks, additional safety by allowing for uninterrupted pedestrian movement, connections between housing areas, schools, and shopping areas. Greenways also provide a natural habitat corridor for wildlife.

The popularity of bike riding also supports development of a community trail system (and the exploration of bike lanes on the community's thoroughfares). 24.7% of respondents to the 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey said they participated in "casual riding", while an additional 5% used rails/trails or bikeway corridors. Despite its decline in popularity, in-line skating still has its devotees, and could easily be accommodated as part of a community trail system.

The ranking of swimming as the second most popular activity also indicates the importance of offering a swimming pool in the community. Greenwood needs to determine what type of facility will best serve it's citizens, and park officials should consider forming a task force to lead that effort.

Camping and hiking opportunities are traditionally offered by State Parks in Indiana, with a few of the larger county or city systems offering hiking and/or camping in heavy demand areas. It does not appear that Greenwood needs to offer camping facilities, but hiking trails could be incorporated in some portion of a community trail system or as part of the development of

Greenwood Park and Recreation Master Plan 2002 - 2006

new passive recreation sites. The interest in fishing (note that >50% of the 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey respondents said they regularly fished) does support the idea of making Greenwood's bodies of water more accessible to the public (which can be done through the use of strategically placed trails, such as Columbus, Indiana's "People Trails" through Mill Race Park).

Since exercising with equipment at clubs declined in popularity, and since that need is often met by the private sector, it does not appear that Greenwood needs to expand their exercise equipment facilities. Bowling and billiards/pool are other activities typically offered by the private sector, and demand for more facilities has not been expressed at the public meetings or in the survey results.

Because of "Hoosier Hysteria", basketball will likely continue to reign as very important in Indiana. Greenwood should continue to provide opportunities in the Community Center and in parks around the city.

#### **4. Recreational Standards**

It is recognized that because the needs of individual communities can vary significantly, nationally there has been a trend away from a standards approach to estimating the need for recreation. However, because park boards still need a guide for planning and justifying their expenditures, **SCORP 2000 – 2004** provides per capita standards.

##### **a. Facility Standards**

The facility standards that were established in 1983 as a guide by the National Recreation and Park Association should be used with a note of caution. The existing number of facilities shown on the following charts include only facilities owned by the City of Greenwood, or under control of the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department (Greenwood Community School Corporation sites).

Greenwood should look at all aspects of the recreation delivery system in the city (including private recreation facilities), because a facilities per capita approach may not provide all of the information needed to best serve the community. Note that the 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey found that the number one reason people did not participate in recreational opportunities was not lack of facilities, or even the cost of participating, but instead was their lack of time. 54.2% of respondents cited lack of time, while only 12.8% cited lack of facilities or cost as a reason for non-participation.

### Recommended Court Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Defeicit/surplus
Badminton	0	1 per 5000	7	-7
Basketball	16	1 per 5000	7	+9
Handball	0	1 per 20,000	2	-2
Tennis	21	1 court per 2000	18	+3
Volleyball	2	1 court per 5000	7	-5
Multiple Recreation Court	0	1 per 10,000	4	-4

### Recommended Field Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Baseball	10*	1 per 5000 (lighted, 1 per 30,000)	7 (1 lighted)	+3
Field Hockey	0	1 per 20,000	2	-2
Football	3	1 per 20,000	2	+1
Soccer	7	1 per 10,000	4	+3
Running Track (1/4 mile)	2	1 per 20,000	2	0
Softball	14**	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	7	+7

\*8 Little League Diamonds are privately owned.

\*\*3 Lassie League Diamonds are privately owned.

### Recommended Swimming Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Swimming Pool	1	1 per 20,000	2	-1

### Recommended Golf Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Driving Range	2 (private)	1 per 50,000	1	+1
Par 3 (18 hole)	2 (private)	N/A		
9-Hole Standard	0	1 per 25,000	1	-1
18-Hole Standard	2 (private)	1 per 50,000	1	+1

### Recommended Winter Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Ice Hockey (indoor)	1- Perry Park - Indy	1 per 100,000	1 for the entire County	0

### Recommended Shooting Sport Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Archery Range	1 (private)	1 per 50,000	1	0
Skeet and Trap Field (8 stations)	0	1 per 50,000	1	-1

### Recommended Trail Recreation Standards

Activity/ Facility	Existing #	Recommended Ratio	# Required	Deficit/surplus
Multi-Use Trails	?	1 mile per 10,000	3.6 miles	?
Interpretive Nature Trails	?	1 mile per 20,000	1.8 miles	?



### b. Greenwood Park Acreage Analysis

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) in association with the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, recommends in ***Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines***, acreage standards for each park type. Standards are compared to existing park acres to help determine recreational needs of a community. It is difficult to assess progress in the availability of recreation lands without using a ratio comparison. As with facilities, every community is different and the amount of land needed for recreation varies accordingly.

The standard developed by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) as part of their ***SCORP 2000 - 2004*** is also referenced in the table below. IDNR's recommended standard of 20 acres of parkland per 1,000 people is higher than the NRPA guidelines. While it can be a guide for assessing deficiencies, it does not account for local factors that may influence recreation choices. Note that ***SCORP 2000 - 2004*** documents the statewide average as 0.15 acres per person (roughly 15 acres per 1,000 people), higher than Johnson County's average of between .06 and 1.5 acres per person (between 6 and 15 acres per 1,000 people). When regional recreation lands (land under control of State or Federal government) are considered, Johnson County meets or exceeds the recommended standard for total recreational lands (55 acres of parkland per 1000 population), primarily due to the presence of the Atterbury Fish and Wildlife Area. IDNR does not list Johnson County as a "critical county", since it meets the total recreational land standard.

Type	Typical Park Size	Total Existing Acreage	Existing Level of Service	IDNR Recommended Level of Service	Surplus/ Deficiency
Mini Park	¼ - 5 Acres	4 Acres	.08 Acres/1000 people	N/A	
Neighborhood Park	5 - 50 Acres	128 Acres	3.33 Acres/1000 people	N/A	
Community Park	100 - 400 Acres	27 Acres	.89 Acres/1000 people	N/A	
Regional Park	100+ Acres			N/A	
School Sites		65 Acres	1.80 Acres/1000 people	N/A	
<b>IDNR Standard for</b>		<b>224 Acres</b>	<b>6.10 acres/1000 people</b>	<b>20 acres/1000 people</b>	<b>- 500 Acres</b>

<b><i>total park acreage</i></b>
----------------------------------

IDNR's standard suggests an overall deficiency of 500 acres of parkland citywide. This perceived shortage is largely due to the tremendous population growth that Greenwood experienced recently. There is a lack of community scale parks within the City, and existing parks are concentrated in the older parts of the City; new subdivisions lack recreational land.

### **5. Accessibility to the Disabled**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal Civil Rights legislation that sets forth requirements for parks and recreational facilities and programs. The passage of the ADA on January 26, 1996 guarantees that access to recreation and play settings is now a civil right for all Americans.

According to the summary of the ADA (Public Law 101-336), the act prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in places of public accommodation, requires that all new places of public accommodations be designed and constructed so as to be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities.

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 403 is not affected by ADA and still prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap for any programs offered by a recipient of federal funds. Any program, activity, or service that is offered to the public must be accessible to disabled individuals.

The City of Greenwood continues to provide park and recreation facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities. The goals and objectives of this plan support this ongoing effort.

# **CHAPTER IV – MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **IV. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

## A. ORGANIZATION'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Greenwood Parks and recreation Department maintains quality park and recreation facilities and services, and provides leisure opportunities so that all citizens will receive:

**Personal Benefits** in the form of physical fitness, relaxation, rest and revitalization;

**Social Benefits** in the form of stronger and healthier families, ethnic and cultural harmony, reduced antisocial behavior, and enriched lives for persons with disabilities;

**Environmental Benefits** in the form of a green and tree-filled city, habitat for native plants and animals, and open and protected green space;

**Economic Benefits** in the form of more productive and healthier citizens, increased tourism, and contributions to the quality of life sought by business and industry.

## B. GENERAL PARK & RECREATION POLICIES

The Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department has adopted the following **Policies for Excellence**:

### Human Resources

To have a Parks and Recreation Board that, as representative of the citizens of Greenwood, provides strong leadership and fosters cooperation between itself, the Executive Director, the Mayor and the City Council.

To have a qualified, dedicated Parks and Recreation Staff that is customer oriented, whose skills are competitively compensated, and achievements are recognized.

To be able to staff the department as to fulfill the needs of the department and the citizens of the City of Greenwood.

**Administration and Operations**

To be an Administration that provides good management and follows adopted plans.

To be consistent with patron's use of park property and a price structure that supports maintenance of facilities and programs without denying access to any citizen.

To have safe and secure facilities that give patrons a sense of security, and reduce vandalism.

To have a park system whose appearance is a source of pride, and whose care and upkeep is guided by sound maintenance practices and a solid preventive maintenance program.

**Funding and Financial Management**

To have a long-term financial plan that enables careful financial management and provides for a capital improvements program.

To have adequate long-term Funding that includes a consistent level of tax support, creative new funding sources, and partnerships with business and private donors.

**Organizational Relationships**

To have a parks and recreation system that develops community pride and fosters support by citizens through public/private partnerships.

To encourage the involvement of every citizen and organization as a means of more effectively meeting the recreation needs of the community.

To have beneficial relationships through coordination and collaboration with other park departments, other local government agencies, school corporations and area universities and with appropriate private and public organizations in order to reduce duplication of facilities and programs, better coordinate the provision of infrastructure and to share resources, including staff expertise.

**Physical Resources and Services**

To continue with system-wide improvements that keep the facilities updated and on the cutting edge, creating inviting atmospheres at all parks.

To have well-maintained diverse parks & facilities that are responsive to all citizen leisure needs and interests, assuring maximum utilization of existing and future facilities.

To have a balanced parks system utilizing the natural resources available in the community to provide an equitable distribution of parks throughout the community.

To have a system of Neighborhood Parks that provides age-appropriate recreation and which are well maintained.

To have a variety of interesting and diverse programs and classes for all ages, but with the greatest emphasis on children and teens, that are priced to be self-supporting.

**Planning and Growth**

To have a strong commitment to multi-year planning that responds to community desires and results that can be realistically implemented and funded.

To have a park system that provides for growth and new facilities commensurate with the growth of the city and changing trends and ideals.

### **C. PREVIOUS PLAN**

The most recent Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Greenwood was adopted in 1985. While it is customary to review the previous plan when developing a new park master plan, and to assess which goals have been accomplished, and which have not (and why), that section has not been included in this document. Since it should typically be only five years between master plan updates, the 16-year gap between completion of the previous plan and this update makes such assessments difficult. Many of the goals were achieved such as various parks improvements, new park acquisitions and developments and the construction of the Greenwood Community Center. Some of the goals were not achieved as funding and/or cooperation was not forthcoming such as the Greenways and trails project. Some of the items included in the last plan may no longer be relevant to the present goals and planning.

### **D. PROPOSED GOALS FOR 2002 - 2006**

The following recommendations are based on the public input, needs analysis and issues that have become apparent throughout the planning process used to prepare this master plan. Objectives are organized under each goal, and are considered to be action steps that are necessary to implement each goal. They have been organized under the same headings as the Park Department's ***Policies for Excellence***.

## **HUMAN RESOURCE GOALS:**

**GOAL:** Attract and retain the best people to staff the Parks and Recreation Department

**OBJECTIVE:** Have a staffing plan that corresponds to increasing park system requirements.

- ☐ Continue to review and revise full time position descriptions and salaries annually or as necessary.
- ☐ Continue to select appropriate staff to meet changing needs

**OBJECTIVE:** Promote efforts of park staff as a team approach.

- ☐ Continue to maintain offices in one suitable facility.
- ☐ Continue weekly staff meetings and including staff in special meetings (i.e., budget preparation).

**OBJECTIVE:** Require continuing education of all staff.

- ☐ Continue to send staff to workshops and seminars.
- ☐ Continue to identifying and prioritizing staff training.

**OBJECTIVE:** Support continuing education for Park Board members.

- ☐ Continue encouraging board members to attend workshops, seminars and conferences.
- ☐ Make available opportunities for Parks Board members to attend workshops, seminars and conferences.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop goal and objectives annually with staff and evaluate at year-end.

- ☐ Continue to conduct individual performance reviews.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS GOALS:**



**GOAL:** Communicate with citizens, business and organizations.

**OBJECTIVE:** Enhance and use the department's existing marketing plan.

**OBJECTIVE:** Use the existing communications program to better inform the public.

- ☐ Develop procedure to ensure upcoming park and recreation events will be included in newspapers
- ☐ Develop a speaker's bureau to make presentations to community groups.

**OBJECTIVE:** Seek more communication between the Park Board and the City Council

- ☐ Conduct a monthly report of the activities of each group.
- ☐ Conduct an annual park retreat and invite both the Park Board and city Council members to attend.

**OBJECTIVE:** Use alternative methods for promoting programs and services.

- ☐ Utilize Government Access Cable channel more to inform the public of programs and services.
- ☐ Continue using the Internet information pages on City's web site promote park programs and facilities.

**GOAL:** Have facilities and programs accessible to all persons, regardless of physical ability.

**OBJECTIVE:** Establish departmental compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

- ☐ Continue to use Universal Design concepts in the design of all new facilities.
- ☐ Continue to remove physical barriers from park facilities.
- ☐ Continue to integrate ADA in program planning.
- ☐ Continue to provide staff training in ADA.

**GOAL:** Work with others to provide more leisure opportunities.

**OBJECTIVE:** Explore partnerships with other organizations to conduct programs within parks and recreation system.

- ☐ Provide regular (quarterly/monthly) guest fitness speakers (i.e., high school and college coaches) and more instruction on physical fitness and health issues.

**OBJECTIVE:** Nurture the relationship with Greenwood's school corporations.

- ☐ Continue to initiate discussions with school corporation personnel to identify opportunities for shared facilities.

**OBJECTIVE:** Coordinate programming with the Johnson County Parks Department.

**GOAL** Posses high standards for park maintenance and development.

**OBJECTIVE:** Use the most efficient means for maintaining park sites.

- ☐ Investigate contract maintenance for remote sites.
- ☐ Perform feasibility study for contracting with private labor sources.
- ☐ Conduct a cost/benefit analysis to determine the feasibility of a second park maintenance facility.

**OBJECTIVE:** Prioritize expansions and improvements.

- ☐ Continue to add play systems compatible with new ADA guidelines, including systems for big kids.
- ☐ Continue to add picnic shelters.

## **FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GOALS:**

**GOAL:** To strive to provide the maximum leisure opportunities within a quality parks and recreation system utilizing, in the most effective manner possible, financial resources available from both public and private sources.

**OBJECTIVE:** Participate in State and Federal grant programs to increase funds for local projects.

- ☐ Investigate the feasibility of hiring a part-time grant writer.

**OBJECTIVE:** Ensure that user fees, including non-resident fees, are adequately defraying the cost of personnel and operations.

- ☐ Annually review fee schedules and make appropriate adjustments if necessary.

**OBJECTIVE:** Set long-range operations and maintenance requirements for each acquisition and development project.

**OBJECTIVE:** Supplement, not duplicate services.

- ☐ Cooperate with others providing leisure services, and redirect energies and financial commitment where unnecessary duplication exists or develops.

**GOAL:** Expand revenue sources and funding options for the Department.

**OBJECTIVE:** Ensure the department fees and charges are sufficient to cover costs incurred.

- ☐ Review annually for adjustment of the department's fees and charges if needed.

**OBJECTIVE:** Explore the expansion of revenue producing facilities and programs.

- ☐ Analyze the possibility and the need for additional means of revenue production.
- ☐ Explore the acceptance of additional revenue production avenues.

**OBJECTIVE:** Create a means for private development to fund the acquisition of public parkland.

- ☐ Explore the establishment of a local park foundation to fund future parkland expansion.

- ☐ Explore the feasibility of using park impact fees to meet the needs of new development for park facilities and parkland acquisition.

**OBJECTIVE:** Expand program sponsorship through local businesses, service clubs, and other agencies.

**OBJECTIVE:** Lobby for the Mayor and City Council to adopt a Capital Budget Program to allow long-term planning for large expenditures.

**GOAL:** Insure that the public trust is preserved in the handling of all money and revenue accountability.

**OBJECTIVE:** Have a staff that is knowledgeable of all money handling procedures.

- ☐ Continue intensive staff training in the areas of cash handling procedures

**OBJECTIVE:** Maintain a strong system of checks and balances.

- ☐ Continue information exchange for the Parks and Recreation Board through Annual/Monthly Comparisons and financial reports
- ☐ Continue Bookkeeper's overseeing functions as prescribed in the Cash Handling Procedures Manual

### **ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIP GOALS:**

**GOAL:** Involve citizens and organizations in meeting local park needs.

**OBJECTIVE:** Maximize use of volunteer efforts.

- ☐ Develop volunteer network
- ☐ Continue to encourage and recognize volunteers.

**OBJECTIVE:** Continue to identify and solicit the unique talents and resources of residents and organizations for the purpose of expanding the leisure program opportunities for the community.

- ☐ Continued efforts in the development of partnerships.
- ☐ Solicit assistance for continued development and administration of "Scholarship Program".
- ☐ Continue establishing a partnership network for special interest and public service programming.

**OBJECTIVE:** Encourage citizens and organizations to aid in efforts to maintain attractive park and recreation facilities.

- ☐ Continue to promote opportunities for memorial/honorarium giving, (i.e. benches, trees, etc.)
- ☐ Continue to offer opportunities for citizens and organizations for repair, build or install items in the parks, under the direction of Park staff.
- ☐ Develop and promote a Gift Catalog for giving opportunities.

### **PHYSICAL RESOURCES AND SERVICES GOALS:**

**GOAL:** Provide a diverse park system with a variety of leisure opportunities that meets the needs of the community.

**OBJECTIVE:** Have a park system that offers opportunities for both active and passive recreational pursuits, as well as both organized and unstructured activities.

**OBJECTIVE:** Have facilities that may be used during all seasons.

**OBJECTIVE:** Have facilities that fit the needs for all age groups and all gender's regardless of ability.

- ☐ Continue planning and development of park designs with all these amenities and ingredients.

**GOAL:** Make the most efficient use of existing park facilities, so that the full potential of each facility is realized.

**OBJECTIVE:** Program for maximum use of all park facilities

**OBJECTIVE:** Plan and design new as well as existing development for maximum use.

- ☐ Continue planning and development of maximum use park designs.

**GOAL:** Increase parks land acreage to maintain proper standards of open-space acreage to population ratios.

**OBJECTIVE:** Pursue the acquisition of large tracts of parkland in areas under-served by existing parks.

- ☐ Acquire parkland in the northeast, southeast and southwest quadrants of Greenwood and the adjacent area.

**OBJECTIVE:** Secure usable land in areas of anticipated development.

- ☐ Work with Plan Commission and developers to obtain useable land with appropriate access in residential developments
- ☐ Work with City officials to develop legislation that will provide for the preservation of greenways and open-space.

**OBJECTIVE:** Focus on natural resources when adding new parks and amenities.

**OBJECTIVE:** Provide enhanced public access to water bodies in the City.

- ☐ Continue to obtain land in flood plain areas, and obtain easements in order to protect noteworthy natural features and to provide the opportunity to develop a “greenway” path system in the community.

**GOAL:** Upgrade and expand existing playground equipment.

**OBJECTIVE:** Make accessible to all levels of ability and meet ADA compliance regulations.

- ☐ Continue to educate staff on ADA standards.
- ☐ Continue to inventory existing facilities and take appropriate actions as necessary.

**OBJECTIVE:** Make playgrounds safe by all safety standards.

- ☐ Continue to educate staff on safety standards for playgrounds and become NPS certified inspectors.
- ☐ Continue to inventory and perform regular inspections and take appropriate action when

necessary.

- ☐ Continue to replace and/or modify outdated equipment when needed.

**OBJECTIVE:** Provide age appropriate play opportunities and equipment.

- ☐ Continue to create separate play areas and play apparatus for appropriate age groups.

**GOAL:** Increase number of park shelter facilities in the park system.

**OBJECTIVE:** Build additional shelter facilities to meet community needs.

- ☐ Study feasibility of need, locations, size and cost.

**GOAL:** Provide diverse recreational programming with a variety of leisure opportunities to meet the community's needs.

**OBJECTIVE:** Offer leisure time pursuits that offer opportunities for both active and passive recreation as well as both organized and unstructured activities.

- ☐ Continue to expand standard and creative programming ideas and developments.

**OBJECTIVE:** Have programs that fit the needs for all age groups and all genders, regardless of ability.

- ☐ Continue to use a programming matrix.
- ☐ Enhance offerings for Older Adult Citizens.
- ☐ Explore starting a "Master" swim program

**OBJECTIVE:** Have programs that fully utilize all available facilities.

**OBJECTIVE:** Program for all seasons.

**GOAL:** Increase environmental and historical education in city parks.

**OBJECTIVE:** Consider adding interpretive sites in existing parks and along future trails.

- ☐ Develop self-guided nature trail at Northwest Annex Park.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop links between parks and historic sites.

- ☐ Complete walking trail of downtown historic area and Craig Park.

**GOAL:** Develop a system of citywide bicycle and pedestrian trails.

**OBJECTIVE:** Explore options for future trail development in existing park properties, in city right-of-way, in public easements and through agreements with property owners.

- ☐ Create a citizen greenway task force to guide the development of a Greenways Master Plan.
- ☐ Look for connections between parks, schools, and other community nodes.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop a multi-purpose trail with necessary considerations for the disabled

- ☐ Include advocates for disabled persons in the planning for all trail projects.

**GOAL:** Develop an aquatic facility that will best serve the community.

**OBJECTIVE:** Determine the feasibility of an updated and expanded aquatic facility.

- ☐ Create a citizen aquatic steering committee to guide in the development of an aquatic facility study.
- ☐ Complete a feasibility study to determine what type of aquatic facility is desired.
- ☐ Complete a feasibility study to analyze site constraints and location for aquatic facility.
- ☐ Hire architectural firm to design new aquatic facility or renovate existing facility.

**GOAL:** Provide a facility for skateboard use.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop a temporary skateboard facility to meet immediate needs.

**OBJECTIVE:** Study the need for a permanent skateboard facility.

- ☐ Analyze temporary facility usage.
- ☐ Begin fundraising and investigation of other funding resources.



**GOAL:** Expand indoor recreation space.

**OBJECTIVE:** Identify recreation facility shortages.

**OBJECTIVE:** Study expansion possibilities of existing Community Center.

**OBJECTIVE:** Study alternative resources.

- ☐ Study acquiring unused commercial recreation facilities, or other appropriate structures for parks and recreation use.
- ☐ Study and target opportunities for private sector solutions.

**OBJECTIVE:** Offering recreation services at multiple centralized locations, or as neighborhood-based facilities.

- ☐ Conduct playground programs at various neighborhood parks.

### **PLANNING AND GROWTH GOALS:**

**GOAL:** Have policies to allow for expansion of the parks system.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop a land acquisition policy.

- ☐ Work with Plan Commission and developers to obtain useable land with appropriate access in residential developments
- ☐ Work with City officials to develop legislation that will provide for the preservation of greenways and open-space.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop a Greenways policy.

- ☐ Work with Plan Commission and developers to obtain useable land with appropriate access in residential developments

- ☐ Work with City officials to develop legislation that will provide for the preservation of greenways and open-space.

**OBJECTIVE:** Develop a “Legacy” program.

**GOAL:** Participate in the City’s broader planning efforts.

**OBJECTIVE:** Coordinate the adoption of updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan as part of City’s Comprehensive Plan.

- ☐ Present to the approved updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the Planning Department for recommendation and approval.
- ☐ Assign Parks department staff to participate in the City’s Comprehensive Plan steering committee.

**OBJECTIVE:** Coordinate bike/pedestrian trails issues with the City’s Thoroughfare Plan update.

- ☐ Assign Parks department staff to participate in the City’s Comprehensive Plan steering committee.

**OBJECTIVE:** Ensure that provisions for developing open space are included in the City’s new Comprehensive Plan.

- ☐ Assist in developing open space provisions for new development in Greenwood.

**OBJECTIVE:** Provide leadership in developing greenway provisions for new development in Greenwood.

- ☐ Participate in the City’s Technical Review Committee when appropriate.

**OBJECTIVE:** Help set direction for Greenwood’s Comprehensive Plan update, with regards to parks, recreation, and open space and greenway preservation.

- ☐ Participate in City’s Comprehensive Plan update committee.

## **E. FIVE YEAR PRIORITY AND ACTION SCHEDULE**

This section identifies the priorities of the Park and Recreation Board over the next five years. The items listed are general

priorities and not in the order of importance. The action schedule outlines the main priorities identified each year throughout the planning period.

<b>YEAR 2002 ACTION</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>ESTIMATE D COST</b>
Acquire parkland in the NE, SE and SW quadrants of community	Bonds, Grants, Donations	~\$24,000 per acre
Create citizen task force for the aquatic park planning	N/A	0
Create citizen greenways task force to guide Greenway Master Plan	N/A	0
Develop temporary skateboard facility to meet immediate needs	City Budget	\$40,000
Construct Trails- Craig Park	BIF Funds	\$80,000
Construct Trails- Northwest Park/ Northwest Park Annex	BIF Funds	\$65,000
Continue to upgrade play systems compatible with new ADA and safety guidelines and integrate systems for tots	City Budget, grant, BIF, Donations	\$30,000 \$10,000
Create community-wide Greenway Master Plan	City Budget,	\$10,000
Complete feasibility and program study for new aquatic facility	Grants	\$30,000
Construct Bike/Walk Trail- Summerfield and Woodman Parks	INDOT Funds	\$20,000
Continue to improve safety surface around existing play equipment	City Budget	\$2,500
Lobby for Mayor and City Council to adopt Capital Budget Program to allow long-term planning for large expenditures.	N/A	0
Assign Park staff to participate in City's comprehensive plan committee	N/A	0
Investigate contract maintenance for remote sites	N/A	0
Explore establishment of local parks foundation to fund park expansion	N/A	0

<b>YEAR 2003 ACTION</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>ESTIMATE D COST</b>
Acquire parkland in the NE, SE and SW quadrants of community	Bonds, Grants, Donations	~\$24,000 per acre
Design and construct aquatic facility	Bond	\$4,500,000
Design/Construct Trails as per 2002 Greenway Master Plan.	Budget, Bond, BIF, Grants	\$200,000
Increase the number of picnic shelters in existing parks and new park developments	City Budget, Bond, Grant, Donations	\$50,000
Continue to upgrade play systems compatible with new ADA and safety guidelines and integrate systems for tots	City Budget, Bond, Grant, Donations	\$30,000
Continue to improve safety surface around existing play equipment	City Budget	\$5,000
Study need for permanent skateboard facility	City Budget	0

<b>YEAR 2004 ACTION</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>ESTIMATE D COST</b>
Acquire parkland in the NE, SE and SW quadrants of community	Bonds, Grants, Donations	~\$25,000 per acre
Design/Construct Trails	Bond, Budget, BIF, Grant	\$500,000- \$800,000
Continue to upgrade play systems compatible with new ADA and safety guidelines and integrate systems for tots	City Budget, Donations	\$35,000
Continue to improve safety surface around existing play equipment	City Budget	\$10,000
Explore feasibility of using park impact fees	City Budget	\$10,000

<b>YEAR 2005 ACTION</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>ESTIMATE</b>
-------------------------	----------------	-----------------

		<b><i>D COST</i></b>
Design/Construct trails	Bond, Budget, BIF, Grant	\$500,000- \$800,000
Develop newly acquired park land	Bond	\$500,000
Design/Plan the expansion of the Community Center	Bond	\$200,000
Continue to upgrade play systems compatible with new ADA and safety guidelines and integrate systems for tots	City Budget, Grant, Donations	\$35,000
Continue to improve safety surface around existing play equipment	City Budget	\$10,000
Repave Craig Park parking	Bond	\$70,000
Increase the number of picnic shelters in existing parks and new park developments	City Budget, Donations	\$20,000

<b><i>YEAR 2006 ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>FUNDING</i></b>	<b><i>ESTIMATE D COST</i></b>
Develop newly acquired park land	Bonds	\$500,000
Construct Community Center expansion	Bond	\$1,300,000
Construct new picnic shelter	Bond	\$20,000



# CHAPTER V – FUNDING SOURCES

## V. FUNDING SOURCES

### A. STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS

#### 1. Legislative Funding Possibilities

Local state legislators may draft state legislation for funding of specific public recreational projects. This has proven to be an effective form of funding especially for large projects in Indiana communities. From time to time other special legislative funds become available. It is always advisable for local officials to develop a relationship with their state legislators.

#### 2. IDNR Administered Grants

##### a. The Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The LWCF program provides a 50% matching grant for park acquisition and development projects and is administered by the IDNR. This program is available to state and local units of government. Local units of government are eligible for this program provided they have a park and recreation board and/or park and recreation department established under Indiana law. Grant participants are also required to have a current 5-year park and recreation master plan in order to participate in this program.

##### b. Indiana Waters Program

The Indiana Waters Program provides 50% to 75% reimbursement funding for the acquisition and development of fishing and boating access sites. Park and recreation boards and or park departments established under current Indiana laws are eligible for funding.

### **c. Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program**

The National Park Service, through the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program, aids state and local governments and private agencies in purchasing and protecting significant river and trail resources, with an emphasis on conservation.

Assistance is provided throughout the process from initial organization of conservation groups to actual implementation procedures. Information exchange is the primary focus. For information regarding the National Park Service assistance program contact:

Recreational Resources  
Assistance Division  
National Park Service (765)  
Washington, D.C. 20013  
(202) 343-3780

### **d. Urban Forestry Assistance Fund Grants**

The Urban Forestry Assistance Fund Grant Program is sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and the Indiana DNR, Division of Forestry. Its purpose is to assist local municipalities and not-for-profit organizations in developing and enhancing community forestry programs. Grants are made on a matching basis to fund projects that emphasize *program development, planning and education*. A small portion of the grant can be used for tree planting projects that are considered demonstration or pilot projects.

### **e. Hometown Indiana Grant Program**

The Hometown Indiana Grant Program has been a popular program with local communities. The Indiana Legislature funds this program through appropriations.

## **3. Other Funding Opportunities – Build Indiana**



For more information, contact the Indiana Department of Transportation, Division of Planning at (317) 232-5319.

## **B. PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**

### **1. Challenge Grants**

Support may be solicited from private individuals and corporations in the form of challenge grants. This type of funding can provide an initial base of support for a project and is intended to encourage additional support that is required for the base grant to be given.

### **2. Bonds**

Park Boards are one of the entities that have the ability to issue bonds under Indiana State law. Other entities that might issue bonds for park projects include a Redevelopment Commission. Bonds may not be acceptable to the community for use in all park and recreation projects. Local officials are advised to seek assistance from expert bond counsel before proceeding.

### **3. Park Foundation**

Many communities have established tax-exempt Park Foundations to act as a repository for large and small gifts. Greenwood would benefit from a Park Foundation, which is typically directed by a separate board (other than the Park Board), and whose task would be to coordinate and encourage contributions from the community.

# APPENDIX A

## **Citizen Survey Results**



## Your Opinion Counts!



**Tell us what you think...! What do you want us to do in the next 5 years...?**

**Help set the direction of your Parks and Recreation Department for the next 5 years.**

*417 Surveys were completed and returned to the Parks and Recreation Department*

1. Do you think the City of Greenwood needs more park land? **Yes = 310** **No = 86**
2. Do you support a bond issue to buy additional land to preserve open space? **Yes = 275** **No = 103**
3. Which of these uses should be the primary objective of additional park land acquisitions?  
**Passive (conservation, picnicking, hiking) = 257** **Active (soccer fields, ball parks, tennis courts) = 119**

4. Should Greenwood acquire land to develop a large community park? **Yes = 233** **No = 128**

**Additional Comments for Question 4:**

- Fishing
- Where now? – too late
- Already have Craig Park – smaller neighborhood parks

5. Check all park features you would like to see expanded (improved) in our existing facilities?

*These items have been ranked according to the number of responses received:*

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 18. Trails (258)                | 27. Community Center (115)      |
| 19. Nature Areas (245)          | 28. Basketball Courts (87)      |
| 20. Restrooms (245)             | 29. Overall Maintenance (75)    |
| 21. Swimming Pool (229)         | 30. Volleyball Courts (65)      |
| 22. Picnic Areas (202)          | 31. Ball Diamonds (59)          |
| 23. Trees/Landscaping (189)     | 32. Tennis Courts (57)          |
| 24. Playground Structures (165) | 33. Soccer Fields (50)          |
| 25. Shelters & Gazebos (161)    | 34. Horseshoe/Shuffleboard (43) |
| 26. Open Space Areas (142)      |                                 |

**Additional Comments for Question 5:**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| • Dog park                             | • Bike paths   |
| • Skate park                           | • Dog park     |
| • Lighting                             | • Racquetball  |
| • Open restrooms                       | • More weights |
| • Paramedic service through Fire Dept. |                |

6. How attractive are Greenwood's parks?

**Very Attractive = 60** **Attractive = 235** **Fair = 113** **Unattractive = 6**

7. How safe do you feel in Greenwood parks? **Very Safe=105** **Safe=235** **Fairly Safe=64** **Unsafe=5**

8. How well are Greenwood's parks maintained? **Excellent = 84** **Good = 270** **Fair = 54** **Poor = 0**

9. How well informed are you of the Park and Recreation programs & facilities available to you?

**Very Informed = 41** **Informed = 164** **Fairly Informed = 155** **Poorly Informed = 31**

**10. In the chart below, rank in numerical order of importance new developments that you want for your Parks and Recreation Dept. from 1 (highest priority) through 7 (lowest priority)**

**These items have been ranked according to the number of #1 rankings received:**

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Walking/Biking Trails (138) | 4. Enlarge Community Center (44) |
| 2. New Pool (93)               | 5. Bike/Skateboard Park (31)     |
| 3. Additional Park Land (77)   | 6. Sports Field Complex (22)     |

**Additional Comments for Question 10:**

- Biking, walking trail a must
- Safer access to parks for kids
- Lush natural surroundings with hiking trails
- More flags
- Dog park (3)
- Surrounding communities must develop their own park facilities – we cannot afford to support them all
- Examine the facilities of communities on the north side like Carmel and add with comparable facilities
- Dancing, weight program, exercise
- Newer, safer preschool age appropriate playgrounds
- We have all of these things. – we need to be responsible with tax dollars
- Sidewalks on County Line and Fry Road
- Indoor/outdoor pool
- Indoor tennis courts
- Place suitable for (indoor) gymnastics
- Man-made ponds
- Pools in other parks – cut down crowd – Northeast
- New or re-surface tennis courts
- Indoor tennis center
- New playground equipment in Northwest Park on Fry Road, very old and somewhat dangerous
- Soccer Fields
- Racquetball
- Clubhouse
- More pre-teen and young teen activities

**11. How should new park developments be paid for?**

Local Taxes = 204   Park User Fees = 203   Development Impact Fees = 2   Public/Private Partnerships = 5

**12. Do you think the Greenwood Recreation Department should offer more programs?**

Yes = 169      No = 120

# APPENDIX B

## **Works Cited**



## **WORKS CITED**

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# APPENDIX C

## **Public Meeting Agendas**

**AGENDA**  
**Greenwood Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan**  
**Public Workshop**  
**March 20, 2001, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Greenwood Community Center**

**Welcome & Project Overview**

- Opening Introductions
- Review of Project Scope & Schedule

**Review of Recreational Needs Analysis**

- Review of Existing Recreation Opportunities
- Recreation Acreage Analysis
- Recreation Facilities Analysis
- Park Service Area Analysis

**Review of Preliminary Priority Goals for the Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**Public Input and Comments**

**AGENDA**  
**Greenwood Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan**  
**Public Meeting**  
**May 15, 2001, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Greenwood Community Center**

**Welcome & Project Overview**

**Demographic Data**

- Population Considerations (including 2000 Census Preliminary Results)
- Income and Employment Considerations

**Citizen Survey Results**

**Recreational Trends**

- National Sporting Goods Association's 1999 Study
- 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey

**Needs Analysis**

- Greenwood Park Acreage Analysis
- Greenwood Facilities Analysis

**Preliminary Goals & Objectives for the Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**Five Year Priority and Action Schedule** (ranking exercise)

**Public Input and Comments**

# APPENDIX D

## **Public Meeting Summaries**

## **MEETING NOTES**

**PROJECT:** Greenwood 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
Public Meeting #1

**PROJECT NO:** 34139

**DATE:** March 20, 2001, 7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDEES:** See attached sign-in sheet and meeting agenda.

1. Evan Springer started the meeting by introducing Pete Fritz, K.K. Gerhart-Fritz, and Scott Siefker from HNTB. Evan Springer then turned the meeting over for the presentation on the progress of the 5-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. A breakdown of the presentation is provided below.
  - Pete Fritz started the presentation by explaining the importance of the 5-year park and recreation master plan, and how it will help the park and recreation board accomplish their goals.
  - Pete Fritz continued by describing the process used to create the five-year park and recreation master plan.
  - K.K. Gerhart-Fritz gave a presentation of the existing demographic information. This included population trends, population age and gender breakdowns, educational attainment, and median household income for Greenwood and Johnson County.
  - Scott Siefker gave a description of the different park classifications. This description included the classification of the current parks and the total existing acreage in each of the park categories.
  - Scott Siefker presented the Park Service Area Analysis. This analysis illustrated the areas of Greenwood that do not have an adequate amount of park space.
  - The existing level of service was given by Scott Siefker. This compared the current amount of Recreation Land in Greenwood to the Statewide Standard for Local Recreation Land.
  - Attendees were encouraged to fill out a park and recreation survey.

2. A facilitated discussion on several topics followed. A list of the topics discussed and the resulting comments are listed below.

**Park Acquisition**

- Yes, acquisition of new parkland is needed while preserving property rights.
- Yes, acquisition of new parkland is needed. New development should pay for the additional parkland.
- What does SCORP mean? -- Strategic outdoor recreation plan
- What is the national standard for park acreage per 1,000 residents?
- More information is needed to determine what the city's park acquisitions needs are. -- Park attendance, level of service, etc
- House lots are getting smaller, less recreation space, and no requirement for new parkland.
- Can design make a park more useable?
- What is the expansion plans for Westside Park?

**Financing of Parkland**

- What is bonding?
- Sponsorship/fundraising was discussed.
- Privatization was discussed.
- How much does parkland cost to purchase? -- \$10,000 to \$20,000 per acre for undeveloped land.

**What Facilities are Needed?**

- Water park
- A separate meeting to discuss the need for pools is wanted.
- Walking and biking trails.
- Some attendees were against trails adjacent to their property.
- All facilities need to be handicap accessible (sidewalks, etc...).

- Skateboard park/facilities
- Playground facilities for tots.
- Dog park
- Opportunities for lunchtime activities are needed during the workday.
- Fishing facilities

#### **Park Appearance**

- Parks are in good condition.
- Users are proud of the parks.
- Beautification of various public spaces throughout the city would be nice.

#### **Park Safety**

- Continue to patrol parks (re. vehicular/pedestrian conflicts).
- Prior issues with Westside Park after dark (regarding perception of safety).

#### **Programming**

- Programs could be offered at Pool Park other than pool activities.
- Tennis, similar to the other park sites. (Outdated equipment currently limits this.)
- More free programs are seen as needed. Who would pay?

These notes reflect the writer's interpretation of comments and direction offered on this date. Should these differ substantially from your understanding or intent, please notify the writer.

Respectfully submitted by:

HNTB CORPORATION



Peter J. Fritz  
Director of Landscape Architecture

cc: Evan Springer (Greenwood Parks)  
File

**MEETING NOTES**

**PROJECT:** Greenwood 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
Public Meeting #2

**PROJECT NO:** 34139

**DATE:** May 15, 2001, 7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDEES:** See attached sign-in sheet and meeting agenda.

1. Park's Executive Director Evan Springer started the meeting by introducing Pete Fritz and K.K. Gerhart-Fritz from HNTB. Attendees were given a handout containing the information to be presented. Evan Springer then turned the meeting over for the presentation of the draft 5-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. A breakdown of the presentation is provided below.
  - Pete Fritz started the presentation by explaining the importance of the 5-year park and recreation master plan, and how it will help the park and recreation board accomplish their goals.
  - K.K. Gerhart-Fritz gave a presentation of the existing demographic information, including preliminary 2000 Census results, population growth, population trends, and income and employment considerations for Greenwood and Johnson County.
  - Pete Fritz gave a summary of the citizen survey results. 417 surveys were returned to the Parks and Recreation Department.

- Pete Fritz discussed recreational trends, as documented in the National Sporting Goods Association's 1999 Study and the 1998 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey.
- Pete Fritz discussed the existing level of service. First he compared the current amount of recreation land in Greenwood to IDNR's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Standard for local recreation land, with a resulting deficiency of approximately 500 acres. Fritz then discussed the analysis of Greenwood facilities, highlighting potential shortages and surpluses.
- Pete Fritz then summarized the proposed master plan goals and objectives, explaining that they resulted from citizen input, park board and staff input, needs analysis results, and trend research.
- Pete Fritz then answered questions from those in attendance

2. Attendees were then asked to rank the importance of proposed action plan items, indicating their expectations of when those items should be completed.

These notes reflect the writer's interpretation of comments and direction offered on this date. Should these differ substantially from your understanding or intent, please notify the writer.

Respectfully submitted by:

HNTB CORPORATION  
K.K. Gerhart-Fritz  
Senior Planner

cc: Evan Springer (Greenwood Parks)  
File



# APPENDIX E

## **Related Newspaper Articles**

Insert Newspaper Articles

# Insert Newspaper Articles

Insert Newspaper Articles

Insert Newspaper Articles

# APPENDIX F

## **IDNR Grant Summary Chart**

**Insert Chart**

**Insert Chart**



# APPENDIX G

## **Section 504 Compliance Form**